THE ATHENÆUM

Journal of English and foreign Literature, Science, and the ffine Arts.

No. 1429.

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LONDON, SATURDAY, MARCH 17, 1855.

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INIVERSITY of LONDON.—MATRICU-UNIVERSITY of LONDON.—MATRICU-LATION.—A CLASS, for the purpose of Reading the Sub-iests required for the Matriculation Examination at the London University, will be opened in University College, by permission of the Connell, on the 10th of April. It will meet on five days of the week, for two hours each day, and will continue until the 1st of July. The hours of meeting will be so arranged as not to inter-turber particulars, apply to Mr. Enness Adams, at the College. University College, February, 1898.

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, That on WEDNESDAY, 18th of APBIL next, the Senate will proceed to elect Examiners in the following departments.

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ARTS.
Solaries.
Two in Classics 120d [T. B. Burcham, Esq. M.A. William Smith, Esq. Ll. D. [T. B. Burcham, Esq. M.A. William Smith, Esq. Ll. D. [Rev. Prof. Heaviside, M.A. (E. B. Jerrard, Esq. M.A. (H. B. Jerrard

Pharmacy... 1 No. 1 F.R.S.
The present Examiners are eligible, and intend to offer themselves, for re-election.
Candidates must announce their names to the Registrar on or before the 11th of April.

By order of the Senate, R. W. ROTHMAN, Registrar. Marlborough House, March 13, 1855.

CEOLOGICAL SOCIETY.—In consequence of the General Fast appointed to be kept on MARCH 21, there WILL HE NO MEETING of the Society on that day. The NEXT MEETING will be on APRIL 4.

DOTANICAL SOCIETY of LONDON.—
DISTRIBUTION of BRITISH PLANTS, 1835.—Members are requested to send their Lists of Desiderate forthwith marked on the 4th Edition of the London Catalogue for the third Plants of the London Catalogue for the third Plants of the London Catalogue for the third Plants of the London Catalogue for the London Catalogue for the London Catalogue for the Library is open on the same days.

ROYAL ACADEMY of ARTS, Trafalgarby of the Boyst Academicians, EDWARD MATTHEW WARD,
Edg., was BLECTED an ACADEMICIAN, in the room of John
James Okalon, Esq. deceased.
J. P. KNIGHT, R.A., Secretary.

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ROYAL ACADEMY OF ARTS, Trafalgarsquare.—NOTICE TO ABTISTS.—All Works of Painting,
Soulpture, Architecture, or Eugraving, intended for the ensuing
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Monday, the 9th, or Tuesday, the 9th of April next, after which
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Works be reserved which have already been publicly nor can any
Works be reFRAMES.—All Pictures and Drawings with wide margins are
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mouldings may prevent Pictures obtaining the situation they
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Every possible care will be taken of Works sent for exhibition,
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Mr. Sheriff Crossley.
W. J. ROPER, Assistant Secretary.

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DEPARTMENT of SCIENCE and ART.— LECTURES will be delivered during the Spring Session as

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Course of Six lectures, on Fridays, at 4 r.M., commencing the 9th of March.
ON THE HUMAN FORM, by John Marshall, Esq. F.R.C.S.
—A Course of Fwieve Lectures, on Fridays, at 4 r.M., commencing the 5th of Arn D. COLUR, by John Lindley, Esq. F.R.S.—A Course of Five Lectures, on Wednesdays, commencing the 6th of June.

AT MARLBOROUGH HOUSE.
ON SURFACE DECORATION, by O. Hudson, Esq.—A Course of Five Lectures, on Twesdays, commencing the 18th of March.
ON THE HISTORY OF ORNAMENTAL ART, by R. N. Wornum, Esq.—A Course of Twive Lectures, on Monday, at halfpats to r.M., and Tuesdays, at 4 r.M., commencing the 5th of March.
ON WOOD ENGRAVING, by John Thompson, Esq.—A Course of Three Lectures, on Wednesdays, commencing the 2nd of May.
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March 17th, 1855.

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T + 3-1- 37 0 0.40	Court Journal 624
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Let us glance at the prose here revised, annotated, explained and admired by its author, in order that our reasons for the above classification may seem to others as clear as they are to ourselves. Mr. Warren will not heed our censures, so strong is he in his certificates. "An excellent nobleman, since dead," admired the 'Diary of a Late Physician,' and wished to reprint one of its papers at his own expense. A gentleman, formerly of Kentucky, "now occupying a high position in American society, and who recently filled an important and responsible office in the State," christened a little daughter Kate Aubrey, after "that glorious Kate" in 'Ten Thousand a-Year.'—Mr. Warren "has never heard an objection" to 'Now and

text for displaying them was to do good. Who does not know the tricks which pass under cover of the preacher's cloak? Mr. Warren early caught the true admonitory twang. His physician's tales remind us of nothing so much as of those tracts,-happily now-a-days rejected,-in which the denuciatory style of the tub-orator was wrought out in fiction. In these we were shown how Young Thomas went out in a boat, when he should have been elsewhere; because of which there came a storm of thunder and lightwhich struck young Thomas dead!—or some other such reverential illustration of cause and effect, crime and punishment. Their style was a strange mixture of what is coarse with what is prosy,—of fierce exaggeration with dull prolixity. Yet, with the multitude, their exaggerations passed for solemn force,—their prolixity for conscientious minuteness. Warren is a proof that readers higher in culture than the cottagers and mechanics who were to be terrified by this tract literature, are not secure against exaggeration,—provided the ranter sets about his business with an earnest-looking scowl, —provided the button-holder does not indicate mortal weakness by stopping to wheeze. With self-confidence, persistence and the plea of a good motive, there is no leek so rank or so rotten that a large public of the tribe Pistol may not be compelled to eat it. The proof lies in this very 'Diary.' We have objected to certain episodes in Mr. Dickens's novels, where the horrors of physical pain are too unscrupulously worked,we have protested against the effects got by M. Eugène Sue out of such a delicate excitement as cautery for the cholera,—but neither the one nor the other romancer has approached, in spasm or in scream, the outcries vented by Mr. Warren during some of his dances round the death-beds of diseased sinners, or within the cells where faithless wives expiate their want of fidelity by the frenzies of lunatic despair. That evidence may not be wanting, the reader is re-quested to bear with the following account of the last sayings of "a man about town," from which we have still left out a line or two here and there as too outrageous to be printed :-

"He did little else than rave and howl, in a blasphemous manner, all the while they were pre-sent. He seemed hardly to be aware of their being his brothers, and to forget the place where he was He cursed me, then Sir —, and his man George, and charged us with compassing his death, concealing his case from his family, and execrating us for Kate "in 'Ten Thousand a-Year.'—Mr. Warren "has never heard an objection" to 'Now and Then' "from either Protestant or Catholic, Churchman or Dissenter, but, on the contrary, has repeatedly received from each strong expressions of gratification and a desire to see the work circulating widely among the humbler classes of society."—An Italian translator has described 'The Lily and the Bee' as "a work which, on account of its originality, has been exposed to the extremes of criticism by the eminent men of a great nation," and has added, that "such a work vindicates its claim to be judged of by nations at large." We have small fear of grieving an author who, despite his renunciation of "the modern system of puffing," so complacently advertises his own genius and virtues in the praise of Peers and the appreciation of Kentucky Kate Aubreys.

It was in the first of the works here collected by Mr. Warren — the 'Diary of a Late Physician'—that our author burst forth into the full glory of that style which—applied to such subjects as cancer, consumption, madness and less poetical diseases—made him a favourite contributor to Blackwoode' Magazine. On looking over this repulsive volume, the secret of its acceptation by certain readers is not hard to discover. Hideous as the subjects are, the pre
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Surely, in point of literary execution, the above dying speech can rank no higher than some terrific last act of retribution at the Victoria Theatre. or than one of those masterpieces of tragical fiction which, as Mr. Mayhew assured us in his book, are so dear to the costermonger public. Yet it is Mr. Warren's own delight. "Its Editor," says he, referring to the tale so won-drously closed, "knows well that this narrative" (including dancing devils, flery owl and large serpents, by way of tail-piece) "has wrought the most satisfactory effects upon minds and hearts by themselves thought irreclaimably lost." He avers that "'The Man about Town' will continue long to be a beacon." May it be so!—may it be a beacon to warn young authors disposed to enter the dissecting-room, the chardisposed to enter the dissecting-room, the enar-nel-house, the ward of violent patients, which way they are not to go. We should, however, have insisted less earnestly on its abominations were the example cited the solitary specimen which "the Late Physician," on virtuous teach-ing bent, has regaled himself withal. His 'Diary' is full of like sweets and savours. Should any one be still disposed to fancy us too severe, let us recommend to his candour the dialogue, song and chorus, closing 'The Destroyer' (closing, also, the 'Diary'), and fit to honourably figure in any Norton-Folgate opera.

The second and third volumes of Mr. Warren's collected productions are devoted to 'Ten Thousand a-Year,'—its author's longest and most complete work. Mr. Warren is seen to his best advantage in this novel. The tricks of "sharp practitioners" expounded in it, we have been told, show an intimate and masterly knowledge of the mean trickery of legal pettifoggers. Though we never have a fear that Titmouse is to die possessed of his ten thousand a year,—though, from the first, we are satisfied that virtuous squirearchy (in the Aubreys) is sure to "enjoy its own again," issuing from the ordeal superior to the temporary triumph of shopocracy,—there is no denying that our novelist has grasped his subject more firmly than many novelists do.

The result is a certain curiosity and patient attention on the part of his reader totally distinct from anything like pleasure or sympathy. Such absence of enjoyment may be accounted for by Mr. Warren's weakness in the generation of Mr. Warren's weakness in the conception of Mr. Warren's weakness in the conception of character.—Let us again have recourse to comparison. We have protested against Mr. Thackeray's love for showing blemishes; but let any one compare his evil Becky with Mr. Warren's hero,—his human Dobbin with the sublime Aubreys in 'Ten Thousand a-Year,'—and the richness and reality of one set of characters will foil the thinness and melo-dramatic falsity of the other with a contract wifficient to illustrate the second of the other with a contrast sufficient to illustrate the judgment just offered. There is not a trace of humour in Mr. Warren's low life. His Oxford-street creatures are grovelling enough;
—but they have not even a trait of individuality. when Tagrag quits the shop to put on his Sunday finery and hospitality,—when Huckaback goes to stir up the lawyers, who have undertaken the cause of his friend Titmouse—which is his cause, because Huckaback has lent Titmouse ten shillings on an I.O.U.,—they act as puppets, not as men. We do not complain of this as those do who on principle protest against the admission of low company. Some of our dearest friends are far from genteel:—Sam Weller is not high—neither is Miggs—nor Mr. Guppy—nor Hood's Unlucky Joe, in 'Tylney Hall.' Mr. Warren's low comedians are simply tiresome. The same objection, again to compare, may be laid against them as may be laid against the clowns and drolls of Theodore Hook's novels—a repulsive want of humanity. But the Author of 'Gilbert Gurney' commanded

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the brightness of a punster and the fun of a farce-writer. Hook's chambermaids, and bagmen, and strolling players, and bandy-legged hairdressers do not "hang on hand." We cannot love or weep for them, but we must laugh at them. Mr. Warren's mean persons are so many wooden figures, whose evolutions are soon learnt by heart, and thus soon become fatiguing. On the other hand, his seraphs and sublime folk—his persons of family, persons of culture, persons of heart, and persons of virtuous suffering, wear a fatal air of the hairdresser's window - a bright-eyed and cherry-cheeked beauty - a waxen grandeur-more noticeable than edifying. The sayings of the ousted Aubreys remind us of the remark made by Scott's Mrs. Dolly Dutton, in 'The Heart of Midlothian,' when, on the occasion of the English milkmaid being frightened in a Highland boat, she professed that "it is a beautiful thing to have learned to write and read, for one can always say such fine words, whatever should befall them." Great labour has been bestowed by Mr. Warren on the figure that stands midway betwixt the vileness of Titmouse and the virtue of the Aubreys: we mean, of course, Mr. Gam-mon,—and he is preferable to most of his playfellows, because he speaks more sparingly than they do; but such power as he exercises over the reader is to be ascribed to the closeness with which the tissue of incident is woven-not to any precision with which his character is deli-

Volume the Fourth of this Collected Edition is one-half devoted to 'Now and Then.' This novel, Mr. Warren complacently assures us, was the result of a few nights' labour, and has given the highest satisfaction to persons of every religious persuasion. Since it was reviewed in the Atheneum [No. 1054], some of the exuberances in its dialogue,—protested against by us,—have been removed. The fall of Heaven's thunderbolt on "your Lordship," in the clergyman's address to the distressed Peer, -which diverted us at the time, -is gone; though no magic could purge Mr. Warren's tale of the spirit which was symbolized by that stupendous figure of speech. The glow of implicit reverence with which he regards ermine and strawberry leaves,—the deeper prostration still with which Royalty is approached, on bended knees, by him,—the tone of rich and sincere sycophancy, in short, with which Rank and everything appertaining thereunto are lauded, -are too thorough-going, too obviously part and parcel of his "morning hymn and evening song," to undergo any change with time or experience. Those who speak evil of these solemnities, we are aware, run the risk of being exposed to awful flourishes of Mr. Bumble's mace. The last year's experience might have taught rash critics that there are such chastisements in store for the heterodox as rotten eggs, made none the sweeter because they have been commissioned to do their avenging work by consecrated hands! But be our line of comment high or be it low, and be its consequences what they may, 'Now and Then,' after revision, is still simply what we pronounced it to be on its first appearance-an interesting story, told in the feeblest and most inflated phraseology of 'The Tuft-hunter's Pocket Com-

Passing over Mr. Warren's 'Discourse on the Intellectual and Moral Development of the Present Age,'-a few words remain to be said on the fourth production included in this collection of his works. A man of a less resolute mind than himself might have put away his dithyrambic on the Crystal Palace, as the off-

with twenty pages of "Exposition,"—with a new "exposure," in which "the Lily" is innew "exposure," in which "the Lily is in-troduced as by a prelude on Apollo's lute, and the Bee, as it were, by the soothing drone of a soft Recorder. Spenser, says Mr. Warren, wrote a letter to Sir Walter Raleigh, to expound the meaning of his 'Faery Queene,'—Mr. Warren will follow Spenser's example. Milton poured out the choruses of his 'Samson Agopoured out the choruses of his 'Samson Ago-nistes' in "rhythmical prose,'—and accord-ingly in rhythmical prose is "England's dear epitome" (Queen Victoria!) accompanied by Mr. Warren, from the great organ of Mr. Willis down to the American reaping-machine. -"The Bee," continues our author, "was a won-derful exhibitor, though he never had a medal awarded him, of skilled industry; a perfect Geometer, Architect and Manufacturer, and, moreover, a citizen of a well-compacted State; his springs of action hidden in dense mys--Our Victorian Spenser has in his pocket the medal for the Bee. "The Angel of the Annunciation is generally represented as bearing a lily in his hand,"—argal, our Milton of the Crystal Palace conceived that the Lily might be "taken up" into "the wondrous tale" also! Can anything be more clear than Mr. Warren's exposures? Can anything display greater lowliness of heart, greater loftiness of conception, than his parallels and parables?— To be serious, in conclusion:-the extreme of plain severity is not too extreme to characterize the coarseness, presumption and folly which are shut up within these four volumes, together with one specious quality and one sound gift. The sonority of period with which Mr. Warren has caught the ear of his public,—the deliberation with which, once having got hold of a notion, he works it out, however excellent in themselves as accessory qualities, -must not be allowed to pass for eloquence and imagination; they must not be permitted to supersede that genial appreciation of character which distinguishes drama from melo-drama—'The Mer-chant of Venice' from 'The Hatchet of Horror.' We hold Mr. Warren's tales and rhapsodies to be bad in point of art,-to be bad in point of nature,-to be bad in point of morals (taking the philosopher's, and not the country-justice's, view of morality),-and say so, without misgiving and without management - since we perceive an attempt made to place them beside the permanent works of the ancient and modern masters of imaginative creation.

After what has been said, we run no risk of being charged with partiality, in declaring that the 'Miscellanies' of Mr. Warren, so far as they are "juridical," afford interesting reading, and exhibit our author's strength as a followerout of circumstantial evidence, without laying bare those weaknesses on which we have animadverted. His elaborate articles on certain celebrated trials—in particular, the Stirling Peerage case—and his biographical notices of Follett and Smith, come within the sphere of this commendation. Take Mr. Warren away from the sphere of the law, however, and he becomes turgid and unreal. His sketch of Calais,' for instance, is twaddle,-fitter for the Old Lady's Diary than for Blackwood's Magazine. His ' Few Personal Recollections of Christopher North' inform us how instantaneously civil Prof. Wilson was to "the Mr. Warren that gained the prize for English verse," and records for us how that gentleman, when promoted to the honours of sitting at supper opposite to Mr. De Quincey's laudanum bottle, ventured to tell a story of "a man overboard,"—but they will not avail to bring one of the most peculiar literary men of modern times before the eyes of spring of a false excitement,—good only to be rary men of modern times before the eyes of forgotten when the fit was over. Not so our those who never saw him, nor were glorified

author. Here, on the contrary, he favours us | by a compliment from him and an invitation

The Seventh Census of the United States, 1850; embracing a Statistical View of each of the States and Territories, arranged by Counties, Towns, &c. By J. D. B. De Bow. Washington, Armstrong.

In this solid volume we have ten years of United States' history written in figures. The decade from 1840 to 1850 is compared with decade from 1840 to 1850 is compared with five preceding decades, from 1790, as well as with similar stages in the progress of various countries in the Old World. Mr. De Bow, under whose superintendence the work was performed, complains that there are defects in the present census system which render errors inevitable. He proposes the establishment of State bureaus for statistical purposes, to keep the accounts and prepare the decennial balancesheet of the nation. Criticism is thus anti-cipated,—and judiciously, as many of the returns are obviously inaccurate. Nor would it have been possible with any organization less than perfect to arrange in immaculate tables nearly fifteen millions of figures, collected by different persons, and during several years. The schedules of the Census, comprising 640,000 pages, have been printed on about a hundred tons of paper, and are to be bound in seven or eight hundred volumes; and this body of statistics, classified and indexed, will be stored up in the archives of the Union.

The difficulty of constructing a correct census was enhanced by the vast area over which its statistics had to be taken. Europe is divided into fifty-nine or sixty States, and its territorial surface exceeds only by one-sixth that of the North American Republic, which contains nearly a million of square miles more than the Russian empire. The density of population is far greater, however, in Russia; but this facilitates an enumeration of the people. The public accountant, in America, follows industry into the wilderness, and reckons its gains; watches the rising village, and registers its children; reports on the longevity of the inhabitants in every new hamlet, and marks, in parallel lines, the growth of rival towns. Some of the general results appear inconsistent with the details. Everywhere we remark incessant vitality,-progress continually accelerated, -society ripening and bearing fruit. Yet the first city of the Union would be second-rate in Europe and in Asia. New York, standing at the head of the list, with Philadelphia, Baltimore, Boston, New Orleans and Cincinnati in order below it, has 515,000 inhabitants, -one-fifth of the population of London, one-half that of Paris, and less than that of Constantinople. In the East Indies, Calcutta is threefold as large as New York; and in China-where they juggle with statistics,-nearly two millions of souls are set down as dwellers in Pekin, with eight hundred thousand in Nankin, and the same in Canton. Yet it is at Washington that the disparity becomes most striking. The lord of cities, named after the first of American warriors and the first of American statesmen, the political centre, beloved from the Atlantic to the Pacific, has a population of forty thousand,-less than that of many helpless places in Germany, unhappy places in Italy, and hopeless places in Spain. Clearly, Italy, and hopeless places in Spain. Clearly, the Americans have little tendency to centralzation: but Washington is scarcely more than forty years old; it is the seat of grave assem-blies, and not of a gaudy court; it leaves commerce to one city, and manufactures to another, and continues in select isolation,-renowned throughout the world, yet not equal in extent to Königsberg, Dantzic, or Bremen.

In the returns, which exhibit the distribution

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five millions—out of the total number of twentythree millions of souls-are described as persons engaged in distinct occupations. Two millions-and-a-half are addicted to husbandry, one million-and-a-half to trade, manufactures, mechanics and mining, and one million to labour "not agricultural." Pursuits requiring education absorb about two hundred thousand; the civil service, 24,000; the army only 5,000. In Great Britain ships and factories fill the highest rank of figures, and the land the second; in America the order is reversed. The profession of the sea is followed in both countries by son of the sea is followed in both countries by nearly equal numbers, as well as "pursuits re-quiring education." The golden catalogue of "persons enjoying independent incomes," though containing half a million of names in Great Britain, does not occur in the United

More than two thousand individuals returned themselves as artists, upwards of seven hundred as actors, thirteen hundred as editors, and no more than eighty-two as "authors," while 355 declare themselves to be publishers. Therefore, one of two things must be understood,—either each American writer produces enough to keep four publishers and a fraction in business; or upwards of three-fourths of the American publishers thrive by piracy and reprint.

The educational statistics are interesting. No less than a million of male adults are described as unable to read or write,—a large number for the United States, though "beautifully less" in comparison with the figures which represent popular ignorance in Great Britain. There are fifteen thousand public and school libraries, connticent nousand public and school horaries, containing upwards of 4,600,000 volumes; and two thousand five hundred periodical publications, circulating annually 426,000,000 of copies. Of these 568 are literary, 83 "neutral," 191 religious, 53 scientific, and 1,630 political.

In a calculation which embraces the entire half-century, the growth of the white popula-tion in the several states is marked. Only in one state—Delaware—is a decrease reported, and that in the ratio of 14 per cent. Since 1790, the North-western States, with the territories of Wisconsin and Iowa, exhibit the largest proportionate development in population and wealth; in the second rank stand California, with the territories of Minnesota, New Mexico, Oregon, and Utah; in the third are the Middle States, with the district of Columbia; in the fourth, the New England States; and in the last, those of the South. The Indians within the limits of the Union were reckoned, in 1789, at seventy-six thousand; at present they are five times as numerous; but these statistics point not to an increase of their nation, but to the extension of the confederated territories. Texas alone added a large Indian population.

In the long recapitulation of provinces, counties and cities, some curious and some hallowed hames meet our observation. We are amused to find Athens, Corinth and Troy; we notice the singular fancy of giving to districts such hames as Anne-Arundel or Angelina; Vermilion and Jasper indicate, perhaps, some natural phenomena; Washington and Franklin are intelligible at once, and do honour to the citi-

which, with their fractured walls and moss-wrapped turrets, we cherish among us as temples of the lares and penates of our land! Raleigh has a population of 4,518. It lies in County Wake, in Carolina,—that "delicate garden, abounding with all kinds of odoriferous flowers," of which the deputies of the gallant and unhappy knight took possession in the name of Queen Elizabeth. Here did Raleigh deter-mine to found a state and "the city of Raleigh." In this city, while yet a hamlet, Virginia Dare, the first English child, was born on the Ame-rican soil; but the hamlet never rose to be a rican soil; but the hamlet never rose to be a city, and the name of its founder disappeared. James the First gratified himself by consigning a paralytic old man to the block, and by reducing his family to beggary; but Stuart male-volence could not obliterate the traces which volence could not obliterate the traces which the hero of great enterprises had left on the American soil. Nearly two centuries afterwards, the State of North Carolina, by "a solemn act of legislation" revived in its capital "The City of Raleigh," which gradually prospers, and may emulate in the future the most noble and brilliant cities of Europe.

In such histories there is a perpetual charm. It might appear, at first, as if a heavy quarto volume, replete only with figures, could add nothing to historical romance, and supply nothing more than economical details. But the results exhibited in these "Consus Returns," if systematically studied, contain a marvellous chapter in the annals of human progress. They enable us to compare the American Union with the empires and kingdoms of Europe, and each of its component States with every other. To trace the facts thus communicated through their various relations, and thus to sum up and analyze the statistical history of the Republic, is a difficult task, because the compilers of the work have not placed the results before us in other than a tabular form; but the knowledge thus acquired is worth the trouble of acquiring it.

NEW NOVELS.

Grace Lee: a Tale. By Julia Kavanagh. 3 vols. Smith, Elder & Co.

In 'Grace Lee' there is abundant talent, as there usually is in Miss Kavanagh's writings; but it has here pleased this lady to write a book
"all out of her own head," as children say,
and to leave human life and human probability out of the question. The effect is not pleasant; there is a monotonous unreality which fatigues the reader to no purpose. The story is not only improbable, but the absolute impossi-bility of it stares the reader in the face and asserts itself in every page. "The realms of imagination," as they are called, have undoubtedly great resources of their own, and can afford to ignore many of the difficulties and impediments which kinder the collinear and impediments which hinder the ordinary course of worldly affairs,—but they are not altogether superior to the laws of gravitation, and Miss Kavanagh should not exhibit her dis-regard to these when she professes to deal with men and women. Grace Lee, the heroine, is intended to be an elaborate ideal of a woman "equal to either fortune," sufficient to herself, and queen over her own will. This may be a must make them, as to the men whose acts they commemorate: but Raleigh is a name which makes us pause, to inquire into the fortunes of this city of North Carolina, where the great Englishman planted many a seed of social happiness and political glory. North America no historical associations! Why, the "City of the contradictions of the contradictions of wild Arabs, and have never yet been brought "within the belt of rule" by any abstract idea or theory that has great Englishman planted many a seed of social happiness and political glory. North America no historical associations! Why, the "City of the contradictions of wild Arabs, and have never yet been brought "within the belt of rule" by any abstract idea; but the contradictions of wall. At first it is a cottage orné, for she has till a small competence left to her by her rule" by any abstract idea; but the contradictions of walls. At first it is a cottage orné, for she has till a small competence left to her by her rule" by any abstract idea; but the contradictions of walls. At first it is a cottage orné, for she has till a small competence left to her by her rule" by any abstract idea; but the contradictions of walls. At first it is a cottage orné, for she has till a small competence left to her by her rule" by any abstract idea; but the contradictions of walls. At first it is a cottage orné, for she has till a small competence left to her by her rule" by any abstract idea; but the contradictions of walls. At first it is a cottage orné, for she has till a small competence left to her by her rule" by any abstract idea; but the contradictions of walls. At first it is a cottage orné, for she has till a small competence left to her by her rule" by any abstract idea; but the contradictions of walls.

of employments, some results may be noted that illustrate the special character of American civilization. Population spreads over a surface in agricultural regions, and converges to a point in manufacturing or commercial districts. About the interval of the castles which, with their fractured walls and mosselse in the world,—and egoism, no matter how disguised or decorated, makes a poor figure when it comes to be dissected, as every one who knows his own heart can testify. Grace Lee, when quite a girl and living with her uncle, an old Catholic priest, and his sister, has a fine fortune left to her—how much, the reader is not told; but apparently it has no limit, for she begins her career of heroine by being perfectly regardless of expense,—indeed, the power of unlimited extravagance seems to be Miss Kavanagh's notion of enjoying a fortune and making the best use of it. Grace goes out into making the best use of it. Grace goes out into the world a young woman of one-and-twenty, travels alone, and visits every place of note far and near,—and at the end of one year comes to Rome, where she is the guest of the French ambassadress, and, like Mrs. Jarley and her wax-work, "the delight of the nobility and gentry," both English and foreign, who are there congregated. Everybody is represented as raving about her, and all the men, of course, wish to marry her,—but she is miraculously clear-sighted, and declines their proposals, whilst she consoles them by magnificent gifts from the she consoles them by magnificent gifts from the fortune for which most of them wished to marry her.

> Here is the record of one well-spent day presented to her retrospection by an approving conscience, after her lady's-maid has retired:—

> "'Oh life, thou art sweet!' thought Grace as she sat in her room thinking. "Full of faith and hope with the happy presumption of inexperience; never doubting her power to do good, she smiled at the remembrance of that day. She saw a brother saved from life-long remorse,—a reluctant girl restored to liberty,—a worldly man tasting one sweet drop in his worldly life,—and glorious, though delusive vision, a nation liberated,—all through her!"

Grace Lee has, however, been smitten with a romantic attachment to John Owen, the hero, a poor, proud, cynical young man,—a doctor's assistant, who leaves that profession to study the law, with the intention of becoming a great man. He is singularly detestable throughout the book, his chief attribute being a remarkably bad temper, not a fine Corsair or Lara-like moodiness, but an unadorned, uncontrolled brutality of nature, such as brings men to the police office. Whilst he is starving and studying, Grace Lee makes her début in fashionable life, orace Lee makes ner deout in Issinonable life, in London, without a chaperon, in a house in Park Lane, furnished like a palace in the 'Arabian Nights,' with all the peerage and baronetage paying her the greatest attention, to say nothing of all the literary and scientific Societies, who elect her a Member in spite of herself. She endows charitable institutions with fabulous sums, and answers every begging letter in the affirmative. Between whiles, she en-deavours to befriend John Owen and to entice him; but he will not be charmed, and behaves in the rudest possible manner. At the end of two years, however, she has to surrender her splendour, not to bailiffs, as might have been expected, but to a cousin, whom she has been ordered to marry in the event of his becoming free, under the penalty of forfeiting half her for-tune if she declines. She declines, of course; and, as her own half is already spent, she gracefully abdicates and retires to live in a cottage in

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disgust and returned to his old profession of medicine. They see one another aeveral times, but he altogether declines falling in love until— and really Miss Kavanagh must pardon us for saying that it is a very revolting and disagree-able incident—he is called in to attend her for a very malignant fever; and whilst she is lying quite insensible and half exposed, he is struck with her fine form and magnificent proportions, which are described with very unnecessary minuteness and fervour, and is inspired there and then with a grande passion. But as he becomes ardent Grace becomes coy: she will not accept him, nor own that she cares for him. She is at this crisis deprived of the remnant of her property, and goes up to London to earn her living by elegant industry, and also to con-ceal herself from John Owen, who grows rich as she grows poor. The game of cross-purposes, of hide and seek, becomes wearisome exceedingly to the reader as well as to John Owen. All these scenes are morbid and unreal, and not at all interesting. John Owen shows himself detestable; for seven years he goes about trying to marry different women, getting rich, and making "electrifying speeches" in the House of Commons, until one day he suddenly discovers Grace-looking always well and happy -living with her blind uncle, and taking in plain work. They are both old enough to regret their past waywardness; they have a rapturous reconciliation, and live transcendently happy at a fine place that bears the emblematic name of "Eden."

Miss Kavanagh has great talent,—and it is a pity she should exhaust herself. Our counsel to her is, to leave novel-writing for a while—to allow that field to lie fallow—and to give herself to some other branch of literary labour, until her eye recovers its freshness of perception and her hand its firmness of touch. 'Grace Lee' bears traces of fatigue, and is not equal to what she has done, or what she can do.

The Secret History of a Household. By the Author of 'Alice Wentworth.' 3 vols. Hurst & Blackett.

It is much to be regretted that authors should betake themselves, as a matter of choice, to illustrate crime and intrigue, when so many subjects of lawful interest, offering "ample room and verge enough" for all purposes of fiction, lie open before them.

It is a mistake to suppose that such topics afford more scope for powerful description and display of psychological investigation: it requires more skill and mastery of art to delineate truly than to exaggerate. A strong stage effect may undoubtedly be produced by placing exaggerated virtues in striking contrast to equally exaggerated incidents of wrong and cruelty; nor is it to be denied that very strong situations may thereby be produced, which shall carry away the reader's interest and disguise the absence of all solid well-elaborated knowledge of the world and "the deep heart of man." It is the comparative ease with which such results may be produced that beguiles second-class writers of fiction into patchouliscented creations of vice and virtue, which, by dint of drapery and description, hang together through three volumes, but which, having no life in them, go to corrupt the literature to which they belong. The work before us is one of this class:-with much talent, and the power to interest and carry along the reader, it is as bad and pernicious a book as we ever read. There are no highly-coloured, over-drawn scenes of vice, but there is a total want of all faculty to discriminate between right and wrong,-an entire disorganization of the moral perceptions. Ralph Stapleton, the hero, is represented as a

proud, self-willed, tyrannical man, with no sense of justice, not even possessing the generosity which sometimes does duty for the more Spartan virtue. Divested of the hues of rhetoric. he is a very bad-tempered man; but with all this, he is stately in his bearing, and has the gift of being indescribably and dangerously fascinating to women when he chooses. This gift enables him to add great profligacy to his other claims to be the hero of a novel. He has married a young, innocent girl, entirely to prevent the discovery of an intrigue he has been carrying on with her half-sister; and he is presented to the reader, at the outset of the book, as neglecting his wife and still carrying on intrigues-many and various-with great success. His wife, the heroine of the book, is a small, pale, exquisitely lovely victim-woman, who adores her husband in spite of his coldness and estrangement, and believes him to be the and estrangement, and believes him to be the perfection of all that is good, in spite of the attempts to open her eyes by his intimate friend, who has designs upon her,—which, of course, she is far too good and too simple to understand.

Part of the interest of the book is made to turn upon the attachment of Stapleton's only sister to his wife's cousin, to which there is no earthly objection, except the implacable and causeless hatred which Stapleton has conceived against him, and to which, without any scruple, he sacrifices his sister's happiness in the most arbitrary and tyrannical fashion. Although he has no reason to hate his sister's lover, he speedily gives cause for a deadly feud, by proceeding to carry on an intrigue with the young man's sister, a beautiful, coquettish, ill-conducted young widow. When the consequences can no longer be concealed, and discovery is imminent, he goes to his wife, who has resolutely been refusing to believe any evil against him, tells her the whole affair, and appeals to her wifely affection to enable him to save the reputation of his mistress! His wife consents, hoping thereby to win her husband's affection, and the three of them proceed abroad, where they take up their abode in an obscure town in the south of France. During the months of their sojourn, the wife has ample leisure to work out her self-abnegation and generosity, having every day her rival before her eyes, -and the spectacle her husband's tender solicitude for the safety of his mistress, and the delicate care he takes not to wound her feelings or hurt her susceptibilities, in contrast to the coldness and neglect which she, his wife, experienced when her own children were born. The whole of this horrible and unnatural mode of life,-all the trials, and miseries, and disgusts it develops,—are dwelt upon with painful minuteness. are dreary and revolting enough; but if such situations must be delineated at all, we are bound to say, that this part of the book is well done after its kind. Of course, the wife's superhuman virtue and self-devotion are intended to be the highest possible model of womanly and conjugal love; and her husband, partly from ennui at the irksome position he has brought upon himself, partly from caprice, begins to fall in love with his wife, and, with King Ahasuerus-like magnanimity, resolves to reward her for all her sufferings. But in novels, as in real life, something very particular generally occurs to prevent virtue being rewarded, and poor Mrs. Stapleton is an example of it. Her husband, being the immaculate man he is, has, of course, strong ideas about female propriety, and he listens to calumnies against his wife, which have their origin in false appearances, produced, quite unconsciously, by her zealous efforts to keep her husband's secret. All her further history and trials—to which those of St. Griselda, the mirror of wives, were

little,—must be read to be understood; and, undoubtedly, those who begin the book will not leave it before the end. We appeal, however, to the author (from various indications, we judge her to be a woman), and we ask her, whether to write such tales as the above is either a worthy exercise of her own talents, or calculated to do credit to literature?

Puschkin's Eugene Onägin.— [Eugen Onägin, von Alexander Puschkin; deutsch von Friedrich Bodenstedt]. Berlin, Deckersche Hofbuchdruckerei; London, Williams & Norgate.

That portion of the European educated world which confines itself to languages usually voted accessible—and, if it has mastered its French and its German, with more or less Italian, thinks it has sacrificed enough time and labour to the comprehension of the modern Babel, and shrinks alike from the Hindostanee and the Sclavonic,—is largely indebted to Friedrich Bodenstedt, who having a good knowledge of the Russian language and literature, and having besides a power over German verse which has led to a comparison between himself and the great Rückert, employs his acquisitions and his talent on a close and lively rendering of one of the most celebrated poets of Russia.

most celebrated poets of Russia. The first volume of Bodenstedt's translation of Puschkin contained miscellaneous poems; the second, which is complete in itself, is occupied by the metrical romance of 'Eugene Onägin,'—or as it might be more phonetically spelt, with reference to the original tongue, 'Jewgënij Onjägin,' the letters being sounded on the German principle. This romance is almost professedly the result of a Byronic influence upon the mind of the author. The hero is the proud, dark, blasé, misanthropic, gentle-manlike personage who was so fashionable in English literature thirty years ago,-a "Childe Harold," whom the poet treats in the "Don Juan" fashion, that he may make his work susceptible of any digression, on social or literary subjects, which he may find convenient. Both sides of Byron are thus represented in one poem. The simple but intensely interesting action, the impassioned characters, and the motives, all belong to the earlier period,-the author's way of regarding the events he records, to the later period of the great English poet. At the same time, Puschkin's poem derives a peculiar charm from the fact, that his story is laid in the midst of modern Russian society, and that his desultory manner allows him to touch on all the phenomena of town and country life. on the most varied literary and social topics of the gigantic Empire of the North-East. The inspiring muse is British, but the subjects of her song are thoroughly Muscovite, and of that detailed kind that we do not often find in any books save fashionable novels. Hence, even the chosen few who are blessed with the faculty of reading Puschkin in the original will do well to possess themselves of M. Bodenstedt's translation. Puschkin without notes would be a degree worse than Dante without notes, -but M. Bodenstedt gives a choice little comment, that not only enables the reader to proceed pleasantly, but sets forth many Muscovite facts of life and literature that might not readily be picked up elsewhere.

The story of 'Eugene Onägin' is, as we have already said, simplicity itself. The hero, who gives the poem its title, is a young, fashionable gentleman of St. Petersburgh, who is completely "used up," and travels on business to a secluded country village. Here he becomes acquainted with a family named Larin, the most conspicuous objects of which are two daughters, Tatjane and Olga. Tatjane is the heroine of

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the tale. Trained up in a simple country life, and utterly unacquainted with the usages of the great world, as represented at St. Petersburgh and Moscow, she no sooner sees the young lion from the metropolis than she falls violently in love with him. Shortly afterwards, she goes further still, and actually makes love to him, writing him a glowing epistle, worthy of a Heloïse. Eugene Onägin, wisely per-ceiving that his own restless, dissatisfied character contains little to ensure the happiness of an unsophisticated, impassioned creature like Tatjane, kindly repels her, accompanying the repulsion with much excellent advice, and ceases to visit the family. However, Tatjane's "name day" approaches; and Lensky, a neighbour, who is the suitor of the other sister, Olga, and the most intimate friend of Eugene, comes with an invitation to the misanthrope, which can scarcely be declined, as all that has passed between him and Tatjane has remained a profound secret. He, therefore, goes to the family festival, but in a malicious mood, which inspires him to flirt desperately with Olga, and thus to stir the jealousy of both Lensky and Tatjane. Lensky is so deeply hurt that he "calls out" the offender, and is killed in the duel that ensues: whereupon Eugene leaves the village, Olga takes unto herself another admirer, whom she marries, and Tatjane is removed to Moscow, that she may make a brilliant match. A gap now occurs in the progress of events. Eugene, once more in the fashionable world, meets, at a ball, a Prince with a stately young wife,—and that wife is Tatjane, apparently frozen down into an ideal of feminine coldness. She treats her former idol with cutting indifference, which, of course, has the effect of making him fall desperately in love; and it is now his turn to write in passionate strain. The lady becomes colder than ever; but Eugene, at last, steals upon her unawares; and, in the conversation which takes place, she confesses that she loves him still, though she is determined to remain faithful to her husband. With this avowal, she quits Eugene and the apartment,-her husband walks in,-and-the story leaves off. This sudden break is not, be it understood, the result of an untimely accident; but Puschkin feels that he has said his say, and formally takes leave of his reader, his hero and his heroine.

The above simple story is admirably suited for its purpose. The chief characters are few, but they are strongly marked. Tatjane is a passionate creature that any poet might love, and the whimsical malecontent, Eugene, is well contrasted with his friend and victim, Lensky, who, likewise a Russian, has been educated in Germany, and has come back glowing with the poetical and philosophical enthusiasm of a "Bursch." The subordinate characters, however trifling their importance, all indicate some phase in Russian society, and, however the scene shifts from one kind of life to another, a picture of the fullest detail is presented to

the reader. To convey some faint notion of Puschkin's manner of telling a story, we give an English version of the description of the duel in which Lensky falls. Saretzky, who appears as Lensky's second, is a Russian adventurer, who has been a scamp in Western Europe, but has now settled down into respectability as a Muscovite country gentleman. The stanzas of fourteen lines each, with the rhymes in a fixed order, are uniformly preserved through the whole of the poem.

Lenaky was tired of sianding still, And more and more impatient grew; Szresiky cristicisse the milt. As one who well mechanics knew. Then Eugene came,—apologized Por seeping them. With look surprises Szresiky ask'd, "Where is your second A classic pedant he was reckon'd

In all the lore of honour's school;
And though a duel was a labour
Of love with him, he wish'd his neighbour
Ever to fall by strictest rule,
According to time-snectioned practice,—
And greatly to his praise the fact is.

And greatly to his praise the fact is.

"My second is already present—
A friend of mine, Monsieur Le Coq:
I trust I'm doing naught unpleasant,
And no one's prejudices shock.
He cannot boast a noble name,
But is a vate without blame."
Saretzky bit his Hips;—Eugene
Requested that they might begin
At once, without procrastination.
Young Lensky nodded, and they walk'd
Apart, engag'd in conversation
With friend Le Coq. The enemies
Stood silent, and with downcast eyes.

Stood silent, and with downcast eyes.

The enemies! So lately brought
To this sad strait! That friendly pair
Accustom'd ev'ry deed and thought,
And almost ev'ry meal to share!
And now each seeks the other's life,
As though hereditary strife
Inspired his rage. Such changes seem
The fiftel wanderings of a dream.
No doubt this plan would be the best:
To laugh, and then the wrong forget;
Shake hands, not stained with blood as yet,
As if the matter were a jest;
But modern heroism is wont
To have a deal of mauvaise honte.

Now with the weapons they begin; The rifled barrels look so bright; The rified barrels look so bright:
The charge is quietly put in,
Then ramm'd until the ball sticks tight.
The lock gives its first boding crack;
They prime the pan, and then draw back
The sharpen'd flint once more. Le Coq
Conceals limself behind a block,
Frighten'd. Each hero now uncases
And flings his cloak upon the ground.
Saretzky with a look profound
Saretzky with a look profound
The plstol glitters in the hand.

The pistol glitters in the hand.

"Now, now advance!"
With equal stride
In coolest blood—(no sim they take)—
The two advance from either side,
And both of them four footsteps make.
Alas! to death each footstep leads!
Eugene Onign still proceeds,
And lifts his arm with movement slow.
And lifts hand lifts he will be a lift of the lift of lift of lifts of lift of l

Tott'ring and speechless does he stand.

To reach his wounded heart he makes one clutch, but with a hand that drops, His look of death, not anguish, speaks—He falls,—as from the mountain tops, Warm'd by the sun, descends the snow, An av'lanche, to the vale below. A sudden shudder overcame Eugene, who called his friend by name, Hast'ning to aid him, but in vain.

The flame which once a poet fired, Upon its aitar has expired.

No traces of warm life remain:
A storm has, with destructive power, Too early snapp'd the fragile flower.

With life compress'd, upon the ground

Too early snapp'd the fragile flower.

With lips compress'd, upon the ground

He lies—a terrible repose

Is on his brow; while from his wound

His heart's blood, red and smoking, flows,

That heart, which was so lately rife

With inspiration and with life,

With youthful recklessness and fire,

With bope, and hate, and warm desire,

To life for evermore is shut:

A mansion uninhabited,

Except by silence, dull and dread.

Together are the shutters put:

The lady is not living there,

She's gone away to—Heav'n knows where!

Sundry Lexing. In the form of con

Sundry lacune, in the form of constellated dots, where stanzas should have been, are to be found in 'Eugene Onägin.' The cause of this must be sought with the Russian censors, not with the German translator.

Travels of an Arab Merchant in Soudan (the Black Kingdoms of Central Africa). I. Darfur.
—II. Wadai. Abridged from the French
by Bayle St. John. Chapman & Hall. THIS book may be described as a piece of good service neatly executed. The task of abridgment is not easy; and its results are often unacceptable to the student, as distinguished that he had promised great privilege and power to the

from the smatterer,—since the details, which are necessary to the completion of the pic-ture, are often left out under a mistaken idea that prolixity can be relieved of its tedious-ness by breaking up a long and heavy work into fragments. Further, Oriental prolixity can only be condensed with any chance of success by one who is familiar with the Oriental style; so that our praise of Mr. Bayle St. John implies more than the wholesale commendation

of a writer who has produced a readable version of a strange book on a strange subject.

Stranger subject could hardly be mentioned than the Black Kingdoms of Central Africa. The mysteries of China, even, seem to be more penetrable than the secrets of those vast districts which have allured, by their very obscurity, so many travellers, and from which so few have returned to tell what they have seen and suffered. But it must be borne in mind wrote without the fear of the Geographical Society before his eyes. Though he shows himself an acute observer, he has faith in marvels. Family ties and home affections, as Mr. Bayle St. John remarks in his Epilogue, hang loose about him; though the prime motive of his journey into the Black Kingdoms was the quest of his father. He was born, says Mr. St. John, in his Preface,-

"in 1789, and commenced his travels when a mere boy, inheriting, and always preserving, the character of a trader. * * He travelled with peculiar advantages in countries, one of which, Darfur, has been only tages in countries, one of which, Dartur, has been only once visited by a European, namely, Brown, in 1793; whilst the other has never been described, except in this instance, by an eye-witness. Accurate geographical details are, of course, not to be expected from the Sheikh. He writes from memory, and from an Oriental point of view. But his descriptions of manners, and the general appearance of tribes and regions, are, to all appearance, accurate. They are extainly interesting. They are certainly interesting."

In the above, the work of the Sheikh seems to be characterized fairly, and not in the bookmaker's flattering fashion. It was rendered into French by Dr. Perron,—of whose version Mr. St. John's is an abridgment. It may be read, we imagine, with a reasonable amount of credence, as well as with interest; and the credit will be determined by the reader's pre-vious acquaintance with Orientalism. In one respect, however, the Arab Merchant is satisfactory:—he is simple in giving up his authorities, and in stating his qualifications. As an instance, he informs us that his historical facts concerning the Sultans of Darfur were gathered from no roll or record, but from "several old Hence his book, without the value of its testimony being impaired by the avowal, acquires a legendary and romantic air, which will recommend it to other readers besides those who may consult it for information. Having said this, without following the Arab Merchant step by step on his travels, we will endeavour to indicate the variety of topics which his revelations touch, and his manner of touching these. First, as to history. To judge from the "old men's tales," a Black King must hold his throne in the midst of a net of peril and conspiracy as complicated as that which used to surround the sovereign ruler of All the Russias. Black Queens have been, in All the Russias. Diaca States and audacious their day, as artful in contrivance and audacious in conspiracy as the Princess Dashkoff herself; and Darfur dishes may contain matter almost as malicious as that celebrated piece of oven-archi-tecture, out of which Sir Geoffry, the King's dwarf, leaped on to the table, armed cap-a-pie,

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Yakoury Kinaneh; but, when he had reached the throne, he neglected to fulfil the promises he had made, either on account of business, which occupied him, or because he feared something from this clever woman or her son, Habib. Angry at this indifference, and finding herself forgotten in the harem, and separated from her son, who lived at a distance, the Yakoury set on foot a conspiracy to place Habib on the throne, for she had lost all hope of his elevation, according to the arrangement made, since a new son had been born to Abd-er-Rahman. This prince, however, though he had neglected her, had maintained her in the rank of Yakoury, having supreme authority in the interior of the palace. She set about the execution of her project in the following manner: — My son,' said she to Abd-er-Rahman, 'wishes to give a great feast, and I should be glad to help him by sending dishes from hence.' The Sultan gave by sending dishes from hence. The Sultan gave permission, and she accordingly prepared great wooden bowls, and placed therein coats of mail and swords, and put food upon the top, and sent forth a hundred at a time, in order to prepare for an insur-rection. Having succeeded the first time, she allowed some days to pass, and again asked permission to send to her son the materials of a second repast. Again the Sultan consented, for he did not suspect that Kinaneh harboured any evil design against him, for he was a man without guile or thought of evil. Kinaneh was successful a second time, and, some days afterwards, she determined to make a third attempt. But, about this time, Abder-Rahman perceived, by accident, with Kinaneh, a young girl whom she was bringing up, and who was of high birth and extraordinary beauty. He became enamoured of her, and resolved to speak to the Yakoury, that he might marry her; but Kinaneh, who had seen the effect produced by the grl's beauty, and who destined her for her son Habib, punished her for allowing herself to be seen. This was the cause of the failure of her conspiracy. girl, angered by her ill-treatment, and knowing of her conspiracy, escaped, and went and spoke secretly to the Sultan, and announced to him that Kinaneh was carrying away weapons from the armoury of his highness, and that all the dishes sent for the festivals concealed cuirasses and swords. 'If you doubt the truth of this,' said she, upaet one of the bowls which are to be carried forth to-morrow, and you will be convinced.' The Sultan begged her not to speak of what she knew to any one, and she left him agitated and disquieted. Next day Abd-er-Rahman was in-formed, by a man whom he had set as a watch, that the bowls destined for Habib were about to be carried forth. He went immediately and ordered the covers to be taken off, that he might look at the dishes prepared. Among them was one of which he was very fond, so he said,—'Leave me this, and pour it out into little vases; I want to eat of it.' The slaves were about to obey, when Kinaneh came in staves were about to obey, when Kinanen came in hastily, and said,—'Prince, I conjure you not to touch these dishes. I will prepare for you exactly similar.'—'No, said he, 'for what you may now make may not please me so well.' Kinaneh was obliged to yield, and said,—'Well, let the slaves carry away the others, and keep that one.'- 'No,' said he, empty it, and when you have filled it again, you may take away the whole together. So the bowl was emptied, and a cuirass was found at the bottom. 'Oh!' said the Sultan, 'what is this?' Kinaneh was troubled, and knew not what to answer. She was immediately seized, and all the bowls were was immediately serzed, and an the bown were upset, and found to be full of weapons and money. 'What evil have I done to thee?' said the Sultan to the Yakoury. 'Wherefore dost thou conspire against me?' Kinaneh had nothing to say in reply, and she was immediately put to death. was seized and sent into prison, in the Marrah mountains, and all his wealth was confiscated. As for his accomplices, they were put to death every one, and the country remained tranquil."

There are many other passages of history as curious as this. By way of contrast, we will now show what manner of mischief is still found among certain races in the Black Kingdoms.—

"I shall now say something of the marvellous qualities of some plants of Darfur. I do so with some hesitation, fearing to be accused of falsehood; but there are some extraordinary things which must

unite from time to time to go on expeditions, and climb the mountains, and plunge into the valleys in search of plants. They are called in Darfur, Magicians, and enjoy a certain reputation. They are all in rivalry one against another, and in strong competition. They keep their roots in horns of goats, rams, or oxen. * * The Forians also possess roots by which they can do evil to their enemies. one which causes death if it be buried in the earth, in the shade of the head of the intended victim, who is at once struck with bewilderment and loses all consciousness, and perishes if a proper antidote be not administered. By similar means any particular member is paralyzed. Others stun people by the smoke of certain roots, collected in a sleeve, which they shake in their faces. The Forians also possess roots, the quality of which is to overcome people with a singular lethargy. They are principally used by robbers, who penetrate with them by night into houses, and if they find the inhabitants awake shake them towards them three times, upon which God shuts their ears and they understand nothing. robber then comes and goes without fear; and some-times kills a sheep, skins it, roasts it, and eats some of it, and puts a piece of the liver into the hands of cach of the sleepers, and goes away, carrying with him what he wants. A little after the people awake from their trance, and ask one another what kind of man it was they had seen, and what he can have been doing. Then only they discover, but too late, the robbery that has been committed. * * The persons most celebrated in Darfur for their charms and magical doings are the Foulans, or Felattahs. One of them, named Tamourrou, used to perform the most miraculous acts. A person worthy of credit related to me the following instance: 'I went with Tamourrou,'he said, 'from Jedid-kerio to the Fasher; the sun was burning hot; the magician was mounted on a camel; he took his cloak and spread it before him, and then folded it up, and, placing it on his knee, pronounced certain words: afterwards he threw it in the air, and it unfolded and remained spread over him and me like a parasol, as if held by invisible hands. Wherever Tamourrou's camel moved it followed. This was an extraordinary fact. Well, we were proceeding on in the shade, when suddenly the rain came on and fell in torrents.
Upon this Tamourrou said to his servant, who was following him on foot: 'Give me a handful of sand;' and having pronounced certain words, whirled his hand round his head in a circle, scattering the sand as he did so. The rain-cloud immediately separated, one part going to the right and the other to the left, and we continued our route without having a thread wetted.' It is also related that some people have the power of paralyzing whoever attempts to attack them. But the most extraordinary facts are those which are related of the Massalits and the Temourkehs, who have the power of metamorphosing them-selves into different kinds of animals. All the Forians say that the former can change into hyænas, cats, and dogs, and the latter into lions. Another extraordinary thing related of the Temourkehs is that, according to their own account, three days after their death, they resuscitate and come out of their tombs, and go into other countries to marry again, and accomplish a second life. In Darfur, every one acknowledges that the Sultan has under his orders a number of men having the power of metamorphosing themselves. They are used as agents and ambassadors. If they are in danger of being seized, they transform themselves into air or wind. I once became very intimate with one of these people, and at length ventured to speak on the subject of his wonderful power, but he turned aside the conversation, and avoided a direct answer. Another time I pressed the question closer, upon which he smiled, and said:—'I did not think you were so simple as to believe all that is said on this subject.' Then he talked of other things, and soon left me, and from that time forward, whenever he met me he turned aside, and our acquaintance utterly ceased."

"—If we recollect right, an air-trick, something like the one described in the extract, is commemorated in the 'Memoirs of the Emperor

be told. The chief properties of these magic plants are in the roots. There exist in Darfur master-herbalists, who have scholars under them. They as in fiction; and that the connexion among the sorceries of cunning impostors of all countries is as intimate as the secret tie of masonic intercourse. But the Arab Merchant spoils all, by having honestly given the rebuke to his credulity administered by the man-metamorphoser. There is a touch of modern scepticism in it, such as would argue that intellectual incredulity may, through some crevice or other, be creeping into even the Black Kingdoms of Central Africa. If it be so, farewell to their unbroken silence and mystery. We shall have the trader there ere another half-century; and with trade will arrive teaching, for better for worse. With or without such prophecy, how-ever, and all the speculation which comes in its train, this book is a pleasant and peculiar volume of reading, which after it has been read may take its place in every miscellaneous library.

> The Life of Horace Greeley, Editor of the New York Tribune. By J. Parton. New York, Mason.

HERE is a biography of four hundred and twentyfour closely-printed octavo pages. On a rough calculation, it is about twenty times as big as the 'Agricola' of Tacitus,-nearly twice as big as the whole Twelve Cæsars of Suetonius, -and occupies about half the space which Johnson found necessary for his 'Lives of the Poets.' Mr. Greeley has no reason to complain; but we cannot say as much for the reading public, which ought to have been consulted in the matter as well as Mr. Greeley. We are told, indeed, in the Preface that he is "innocent of the book;" We are told, indeed, in but, at the same time, the author's statement shows that he must have approved of its being written. It is, indeed, a work as curious in its way as Mr. Barnum's "woolly horse," which that gentleman described in a bill as "Nature's last." Under that aspect, we propose to look at it. "Nature's last" it may be appropriately enough styled; and if it prove Mr. Parton's last, nobody—not even Mr. Greeley—need very much regret it.

The custom of writing the biographies of men still alive appears to be gaining ground. It is a very singular one — so singular, that only in China do we know any custom similarly odd. That strange people (according to M. Huc) present each other, occasionally, with a handsomely-painted wooden coffin, in pleasant anticipation of the final day, Mr. Parton has made Mr. Greeley just such a gift. Generally speaking, we should think it the most delicate matter possible to talk to a man about his "biography,"—the very mention of which seems to smack of the odours of the funeral pile. But Mr. Parton takes his friend's measure in a business-like manner - scans him - weighs him, even notes the dimensions as carefully as an undertaker's apprentice—and produces, as the result, an object similar in its oddity (and still more, in its material) to the Chinese presents we have mentioned. How far this custom of writing biographies of the living will ultimately conduce to the well-being of nations, it would be difficult to say. It would seem (we venture to think) slightly injurious to the general cause of private modesty, literary delicacy, and historical impartiality. But the inquiry would lead us too far; and we are somewhat re-assured by our conviction, that nothing could so effectually discredit it as its being done in the style in which it has been done in the work before us.

At one time, we thought Mr. Parton a wag, who, having been injured by the Tribune, was

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revenging himself in an elaborately ironical | performance. But a further acquaintance with Mr. Parton's powers of humour induced us to abandon this superficial notion. We found that he was solemnly in earnest,—when, strange to say, he became more amusing than ever. Finally, say, ne became more amusing than ever. Finally, we thought his work so curious, in all its particulars, that we resolved that our readers should enjoy,—in the idolatry of Mr. Greeley by Mr. Parton,—a treat, which the intentional humour of the weakings we few model. humour of the worshipper, we fear, would never afford them. We shall best serve our purpose by a well-selected series of extracts. In our first, we begin with the infant Greeley-having taken the great liberty of skipping some fourteen pages about his father, grandfather and grand-

"There, on the 3rd of February, 1811, Horace Greeley was born. He is the third of seven children, of whom the two elder died before he was born, and or whom the two cider died before he was born, and the four younger are still living. The mode of his entrance upon the stage of the world was, to say the least of it, unusual. The effort was almost too much for him, and, to use the language of one who was present, 'he came into the world as black as a chimney.' There were no signs of life. He uttered no cry; he made no motion; he did not breathe. But the little discoloured stranger had articles to write, and was not permitted to escape his destiny. In this alarming crisis of his existence, a kind-hearted and experienced aunt came to his rescue, and by arts, which to kind-hearted and experienced aunts are well known, but of which the present chronicler remains in ignorance, the boy was brought to life. He soon began to breathe; then he began to blush; and by the time he had attained the age of twenty minutes, lay on his mother's arm, a red and smiling infant. In due time, the boy received the name of There had been another little Horace Greeley before him, but he had died in infancy, and his parents wished to preserve in their second son a living memento of their first. The name was not introduced into the family from any partiality on the part of his parents for the Roman poet, but because his father had a relative so named, and because the mother had read the name in a book and liked the sound of it. The sound of it, however, did not often regale the maternal ear; for, in New England, where the name of the courtly satirist is frequently given, its household name is 'Hod'; and by that elegant monosyllable the boy was commonly called among his juvenile friends."

-This is perfect.

In his youth, Mr. Greeley was fond of fishing —read a weekly newspaper—showed remarkable intelligence—and lived among a population in New Hampshire much addicted to rum:—so his biographer tells us in the space of another twenty pages. Family difficulties began, it appeared, about the time of his tenth year. He was then removed to Westhaven, Vermont. But what was his personal appearance in youth?-

"More than three garments at the same time Horace seldom wore in the summer, and these were —a straw hat, generally in a state of dilapidation, a a straw hat, generally in a state of diaphatation, a tow-shirt, never buttoned, a pair of trousers made of the family material, and having the peculiarity of being very short in both legs, but shorter in one than the other. In the winter he added a pair of shoes and a jacket. During the five years of his life at Westhaven, probably his clothes did not cost three dollars a year; and I believe that during the whole period of his childhood, up to the time when he came of age, not fifty dollars in all were expended upon his dress. He never manifested, on any occasion, in any company, nor at any part of his early life, the slightest interest in his attire, nor the least care for its effect upon others. That amiable trait in human nature which inclines us to decoration, which

the two legs of Mr. Greeley was shorter than the other. But he makes up further on.—

"A few months after, it may be as well to mention here, Mr. Greeley removed to Eric county, Pennsylvania, and bought some wild land there, from which he gradually created a farm, leaving Horace alone in Vermont. Grass now grows where the little house stood in Westhaven, in which the family lived longest, and the barn in which they stored their hay and kept their cattle, leans forward like a kneeling elephant, and lets in the daylight through ten thouelephant, and lets in the daylight through ten thousand apertures. But the neighbours point out the tree that stood before their front door, and the tree that shaded the kitchen window, and the tree that stood behind the house, and the tree whose apples Horace liked, and the bed of mint with which he regaled his nose. And both the people of Westhaven and those of Amherst assert that whenever the Editor of the Tribune revisits the scenes of his early life, at the season when apples are ripe, one of the things that he is surest to do is, to visit the apple-trees that produce the fruit which he liked best when he was a boy, and which he still prefers before all the apples of the world."

It will not be in our power to follow every step in Mr. Greeley's career with Mr. Parton's minuteness. If his style has a fault, it is a slight tendency to prosaic detail. Mr. Greeley became a printer—and his fellow-workmen daubed him with ink—and he joined a debating society in "East Poultney," in which he was a "real giant"—and so forth. We reluctantly omit a passage about his "first over-coat," and a long account of "a sore leg" he had in his youth. In the course of a hundred and twenty pages, the biographer brings him to New York. pages, the biographer brings him to New York. He started the *New Yorker* in 1834; or, in Mr. Parton's language, "the dream of editorship revived in the soul of Horace Greeley!" He wrote poetry, too, in the New Yorker; and as Mr. Parton must not have all the fun to himself, we shall allow his demi-god to contribute his

"A series of poems, entitled 'Historic Pencillings,' appear in the first volume of the New Yorker, over the initials 'H. G.' These were the poetized reminiscences of his boyish historical reading. Of these poems, the following is, perhaps, the most pleasing and characteristic :-

The tyrant slept in death;
His long career of blood had ceased for ever,
And but an empire's executaing breath
Remained to tell of crimes exampled never.
Alone remained? Ah! no;
Rome's scathed and blackened walls retold the story
Of conflagration's broad and baledla glow.
Such was the halo of the despot's glory!

Such was the halo of the despot's glory:

And round his gilded tomb
Came crowds of sufferers—but not to weep—
Not theirs the wish to light the house of gloom
With sympathy. No! Curses wild and deep
His only requiem made.
But soft! see, strewed around his dreamless bed
The trophies bright of many a verdant glade,
The living's tribute to the honored dead.

Mr. Greeley became a partner with Mr. Thomas M'Elrath. They were joint partners in the Tribune. Our biographer is seized here with "the enthusiastic fit."—

"A strict disciplinarian, a close calculator, a man "A strict disciplinarian, a close calculator, a man of method and order, experienced in business, Mr. M'Elrath possessed in an eminent degree the very qualities in which the editor of the Tribune was most deficient. Roll Horace Greeley and Thomas M'Elrath into one, and the result would be a very respectable approximation to a Perfect Man. The two, united in partnership, have been able to produce a very respectable approximation to a perfect newsmakes us desirous to present an agreeable figure to others, and to abhor peculiarity in our appearance, is a trait which Horace never gave the smallest evidence of possessing."

We are sorry to find Mr. Parton at fault, here.

He is negligent. He does not tell us which of Greeley."

a very respectable approximation to a perfect newspaper. As Damon and Pythias are the types of perfect friendship, so may Greeley and McElrath be of a perfect partnership; and one may say, with a sigh at the many discordant unions the world presents, Oh! that every Greeley could find his McElrath! and blessed is the McElrath that finds his Greeley."

Blessed—may we not add?—is the Greeley who finds his Parton!

But Mr. Greeley, it seems, visited England at the time of the Exhibition. We shall here see what Mr. Greeley thought of England. He does not appear to have got as much amuse-ment out of us as we—thanks to his biographer -have had out of him.-

"On the first of May the Great Exhibition was opened, and our traveller saw the show both within and without the Crystal Palace. The day was a fine one—for England. He thought the London sunshine a little superior in brilliancy to American moonlight; and wondered how the government could have the conscience to tax such light. The royal procession, he says, was not much; a parade of the New York Firemen or Odd Fellows could beat it; but then it was a new thing to see a Queen, a court, and an aristocracy doing honour to industry. He was glad to see the Queen in the pageant, though he could not but feel that her vocation was behind the intelligence of the age, and likely to go out of fashion at no distant day; but not through her fault. He could not see, however, what the Master of the Buck-hounds, the Groom of the Stole, the Mistress of the Robes, and 'such uncoult fossils,' had to do with a grand exhibition of the fruits of industry. The Mistress of the Robes made no robes; the Ladies of the Bed-chamber did nothing with beds but sleep on them. The posts of honour nearest the Queen's person ought to have been confided to the descendants of Watt and Arkwright, 'Napoleon's real conquerors;' while the foreign ambassadors should have been the sons of Fitch, ambassadors should have been the sons of Fitch, Fulton, Whitney, Daguerre and Morse; and the places less conspicuous should have been assigned, not to Gold-stick, Silver-stick, and 'kindred absurdities,' but to the Queen's gardeners, horticulturists, carpenters, upholsterers, and milliners! (Fancy Gold-stick reading this passage!) The traveller, however, even at such a moment is not unmindful of similar nuisances across the ocean, and pauses to express the hope that we may be able, before the century is out, to elect 'something else' than Generals to the Presidency.'

Mr. Greeley made a speech,—and it was "not published in the newspaper report of the ban-quet!" We think we can trace a connexion between the omission and the following paragraph.-

"The sights in and about London seem to have "The sights in and about London seem to have made no great impression on the mind of Horace Greeley. He spent a day at Hampton Court, which he oddly describes as larger than the Astor House, but less lofty and containing fewer rooms. Westminster Abbey appeared to him a mere barbaric profusion of lofty ceilings, stained windows, carving, graining, and all manner of contrivances for absorbing labour and money—'waste, not taste; the contortions of the sibyl without her inspiration.' The part of the building devoted to public worship he thought less adapted to that purpose than a fifty-thousand dollar church in New York."

Is it possible that the English people neglected a man of whose wit, good manners, good sense, and good taste, such specimens can be produced by a biographer as we now subjoin?—

"He seems never so happy as when he is at bay, and is never so funny as when he is repelling a per-sonal assault. I have before me several hundreds of his editorial hits and repartees, some serious, more comic, some refuting argument, others exposing some returning argument, others exposing slander, some merely vituperative, others very witty, all extremely readable, though the occasions that called them forth have long passed by. My plan is to select and condense a few of each kind, presenting only the point of each. * * In reply to a personal attack by Major Noah, of the Union, he begins, attack by Major Noah, of the Union, he begins, 'We ought not to notice this old villain again.' On another occasion, 'What a silly old joker this last hard bargain of Tylerism is!' On another, 'Major Noah! why won't you tell the truth once in a century, for the variety of the thing.' On another, 'And it is by such poor drivel as this that the superannuated renegade from all parties and all principles them the to care his forced cortibutions and "Officential them to the control of attempts to earn his forced contributions and "Official" advertisements! Surely his latest purchasers

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must despise their worn-out tool, and most heartily repent of their hard bargain." " " "Mr. Benton! each of the above observations is a deliberate falsehood, and you are an unqualified villain!"—"The Express is surely the basest and paltriest of all possible journals."

"If Horace Greeley were a flower," says this irresistible writer, "botanists would call him

"If Horace Greeley were a flower," says this irresistible writer, "botanists would call him 'single." Our readers who have seen some of the leaves can determine what flower they would liken him to without our assistance.

But before we part with Mr. Parton, we must hear him on his hero's "white coat." It is not generally known in England, we fear, that Mr. Greeley wears a "white coat"; but Mr. Parton evidently thinks that it is one of the most important and widely-known facts of the age. He inserts a letter from an enthusiastic youth (of his own calibre) who visited Mr. Greeley,—on which occasion the great man made the important declaration which we have put in italics, and which will for ever set a high and disputed question at rest.—

"As I passed the hat-stand in the hall, I said, 'Here is that immortal white coat.' He smiled and said, 'People suppose it's the same old coat, but it isn't.' I looked questioningly, and he continued, 'The original white coat came from Ireland. An emigrant brought it out; he wanted money and I wanted a coat; so I bought it of him for twenty dollars, and it was the best coat I ever had.'"

One thing only was left for this biographer when he drew towards the end of his long "Life." That was, to describe his hero's person. He has done it in a passage which we deliberately pronounce the gem of the book.—

"Horace Greeley stands five feet ten and a half inches, in his stockings. He weighs one hundred and forty-five pounds. Since his return from Europe in 1851, he has increased in weight, and promises to attain, in due time, something of the dignity which belongs to amplitude of person. He stoops considerably, not from age, but from a constitutional pliancy of the back-bone, aided by his early habit of incessant reading. In walking, he swings or sways from side to side. Seen from behind, he looks, as he walks with head depressed, bended back, and swaying gait, like an old man; an illusion which is heightened, if a stray lock of white hair escapes from under his hat. But the expression of his face is singularly and engagingly youthful. His complexion is extremely fair, and a smile plays ever upon his countenance. His head, measured round the organs of Individuality and Philoprogenitiveness, is twenty-three and a half inches in circumference, which is considerably larger than the average. His forehead is round and full, and rises into a high and ample dome. The hair is white, inclining to red at the ends, and thinly scattered over the head. Seated in company, with his hat off, he looks not unlike the 'Philosopher' he is often called; no one could take him for a common man."

The descriptive talent here is of a peculiar character, however,—the kind of talent which is confined, in this country, chiefly to the *Hue and Crys*. But Mr. Parton has a right to choose his own style,—and we are far from saying that he is not equal to the subject. We thank him for another Curiosity of Literature.

THE WAR.

To assist the discussion on Army Reform, Mr. H. Bryerley Thompson, author of a treatise on the Laws of War affecting Commerce and Shipping, has compiled a volume on The Military Forces and Institutions of Great Britain and Ireland; their Constitution, Administration, and Government, Military and Civil. (Smith, Elder & Co.)—Desirous of interesting the public, as well as of serving the profession, he has interwoven with the contents of an officer's manual an outline of English history in its relation to military establishments. A plain description of the regular army and of the militia; a recapitulation of the methods by which they are organized and kept

in a state of efficiency-and inefficiency; an abstract of the laws which affect them; and a review of the system by which promotions are regulated, form the contents of the work, in addition to notes on miscellaneous topics connected with the pomp and circumstance of war.
Mr. Thompson cites in his text the authority of Dupin—the ablest French writer on English military affairs—of several judges, generals, and legal essayists, but refrains from arguments on general theories. The object he proposes is, to furnish information of special as well as of popular utility: and so far his book is a serviceable publication. The author, however, would have done more service to the state had he applied some critical analysis to his subject, and brought the vexed opinions of the day to the test of practical examination. Of manuals we have enough; a writer who asks for a long hearing ought to have views of his own, and an original manner of explaining them.

The distinction suggested by Mr. Thompson between the British and Continental armies begins with the system of enlistment. Here a man selects the military service, as he selects any other calling; but, once selected (due time being given for reflection), it is not his choice, but his fate. He and his flag are wedded for the best days of life, and any attempt to break the bond leads to punishment and infamy. In the other states of Europe, though voluntary en-listment is not excluded, all men are liable to bear arms for a shorter or longer period. Nearly every citizen is or has been a soldier; before his time arrives, he is taught to expect it with ardour; afterwards, he recurs to it with pride. Such, at least, is the Continental ideal; which we may accept, if a courteous silence be maintained as to the horror with which the martial yoke is regarded by peasants and artificers who understand the word independence better than the

The inhabitants of large towns who are tired of factories, and agricultural labourers who are tired of the field, appear to make up the bulk of the English army. The former are the more turbulent, the latter the more patient; but both classes in the aggregate, though once supposed to represent idleness grown desperate or profligacy become destitute, have gained an historical character as the steadiest in battle, the most forbearing in victory, the most honest on their marches, of any soldiers in Europe.

Mr. Thompson, after a categorical description of the army in its several branches, touches on the subject of commissions, and states that "gentlemen who have been pages to the Queen invariably obtain commissions in the Guards when they attain the age of sixteen." He adds. "with very few exceptions, the rank of fieldmarshal has been limited to princes, who never commanded an army; the highest military office of dignity may therefore be regarded as merely a titular rank or sinecure." Sometimes, however, military honours have been obtained. as civil salaries occasionally are, by payment of a surreptitious fee, or by what Lord Chancellor Henley called "a contract of turpitude." Mr. Thompson has a good story to tell à propos of this. A person named Morris gave 2001. to a linen-draper named M'Culloch, who, through the influence of a lady, acting first on a captain, and then on an admiral, procured him a commission in the marines. The linen-draper had threefourths of the money, and the lady one-fourth. But Mr. Morris, having messed with his brother officers for six months, was discovered by them to have been-at one epoch of his life-a liveryservant: whereupon they would not march with him through Coventry; they shunned his society, refused him a place among them, and complained to the Admiralty. In due course

the Admiralty returned its answer, and Morris was discharged "for having been a livery-servant." On a trial which followed for the recovery of his money, it was proved that the gallant gentlemen of the marines had nothing to complain of, except that their companion "had been" something which he was not then.

The successive chapters of Mr. Thompson's work are illustrated and enlivened by the introduction of similar instances from the records of military administration. Many of these are of a surprising nature; and in some of them, as we believe, may be discovered evidences of long-established modes of thought and feeling prevalent, not in the army only, but among all sorts and conditions of people in this country. The subject is distributed into its proper divisions, and is treated in a practical, if not in a critical, manner.

Mr. Bright's 'Letter on the War' has elicited a formal Reply from Mr. John Coleman (Hatchard). The argument of his pamphlet is made up of materials which journalism has well nigh exhausted :—the story of the Holy Places—the policy of Lord Aberdeen—the despatches of Sir Hamilton Seymour—the Vienna Note—the diplomatic attitude of the Ottoman Porte, and the occupation of the Danubian Principalities. Mr. Coleman is painstaking and tedious. His enthusiasm explodes in monstrous figures of speech, and his efforts at sarcasm result in mere imitations of Burke and Junius. We cannot assign any value to such a statement of a great public question. Mr. Coleman's prejudices incapacitate him from making a logical use of the facts he has compiled from blue-books and newspapers. He confuses his narrative by the discussion of irrelevant topics, and finds an excuse for pronouncing, in terms at once gross, flippant and ridiculous, on historical parties and characters, which he vituperates without comprehending. A sense of propriety should have induced him to expunge from his pages certain expressions which are too repulsive for quotation. We are much mistaken if English readers will elect such a declaimer as their champion against the doctrines of any man or party. The vindication of the Russian war, the plea of England before Europe, the companion to the alluring rhetoric of Burke's 'Reflections, and to the persuasive but monotonousreasoning of Mackintosh, has yet to appear. None of the War pamphlets have made them-selves felt by the nation. Mr. Coleman assails some of the purest public characters and most admirable writers of the age with language which is simply discreditable to himself. Moreover, his style is a compound of incorrectness and inflation. The last French Constitution was (in the same metaphorical paragraph) first "created," then "begotten," then "cradded." It had "defects" which at every "step" "bespoke" its origin. Next it "drifted about,"—then it was a "Gordian knot," and so forth: the entire pamphlet displaying no more than a plenitude of commonplaces, distended into a volume by the inflation of Mr. Coleman's style.

Alexander von Humboldt's Preface to Prince Waldemar's 'Travels'—[Vorwort von Alex.v. Humboldt zu den 'Errinnerungen der Reise nach Indien von S.R.H. dem Prinzen Waldemar von Preussen'].

This éloge or prospectus, which is issued separately, serves to announce a work apparently of almost unprecedented splendour. The brother and two sisters of the late Prince Waldemar of Prussia—namely, Prince Adalbert of Prussis, Princess Elizabeth of Hesse, and Queen Maria of Bavaria—have united together to publish in grand style the result of his scientific voyage

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Prince Alex. v. r Reise

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to India, and thus to raise a monument to his memory. More than 100 plates executed by Herren Bellermann and Kretzschmer, after sketches by the princely traveller, are to illus-

trate the letter-press.

Prince Waldemar, who was engaged in the operations against the Sikhs under Sir Henry Hardinge, and was afterwards well received in this country, was the son of Prince William, uncle to the present king. A journey over the Swiss Alps and through Italy, in the company of his father and his elder brother, Adalbert, who has himself acquired a reputation for scien-tific travel by his expedition to Brazil and the Amazon River, seems first to have inspired him with the desire to visit the great Oriental Peninsula, where he hoped at once to satisfy his thirst for knowledge and to gain military experience by joining the English army. The chosen companions of his voyage were all men of good reputation,—viz., Count von Oriolla, who had accompanied Prince Adalbert on his who had accompanied Prince Adalbert on his Brazilian expedition, Count von der Gröben, Carl Werner, a subaltern officer, who had already seen Indian service, and Dr. Werner Hoffmeister, the distinguished naturalist, who unfortunately fell in one of the battles against the Sikhs, at the early age of twenty-six, having established an European reputation by his 'Briefe von Indien,' which were translated into English directly after their publication in Ger-

many.

The Prince set off in the beginning of September, 1844. Having visited Egypt, Corfu, and Athens, he landed at Ceylon in the middle of the following November, and reached the mouth of the Ganges in the beginning of January 1845. This part of the expedition is described in the first section of the work. The second section is devoted to a journey through Hindostan, which comprised Patna, Catmandu, Benares, Delhi, and Naini Tâl;—the third to an excursion in the Himalayas, which lasted from May to October;—and the fourth to the campaign against the Sikhs and the return of the Prince by the way of Bombay. This return was followed in about two years and a half by the death of the traveller, who expired at Munster, on the 17th of February 1849, having only completed the thirty-third year of his age. completed the thirty-third year of his age.

The materials left by the young Prince for the benefit of posterity consisted of a journal, which had been regularly kept, but did not reach further than the beginning of the second section of the edited work, -of a number of isolated notes and observations,—and of epistolary correspondence. The posthumous writings of Dr. Hoffmeister have also been used, and a most important addition to the manuscripts is a series of sketches made by the Prince, and partly lithographed during his lifetime.

Count Oriolla, the companion of the Prince during the expedition, has done good service in preparing the record for publication. At his suggestion, an introduction has been prefixed to each of the four sections; and he has entirely taken upon himself that portion of the work which comprises the Himalayas and the incidents of the campaign, — making use of his own reminiscences, notes and plans, to render it as complete as possible. Count von der Gröben, who also belonged to the party, was to have re-written the text of the first volume, but as he had not leisure sufficient for the undertaking, this part of the work has been placed under the superintendence of Herr H. Mahlmann, a distinguished geographer, who has also furnished a series of maps.

And let us not forget the fact with which we

written by the illustrious Alexander von Hum-

OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

History of the Arabs. By L. A. Sédillot. (Paris, Hachette.)—M. Sédillot belongs to a family distinguished for their studies in connexion with Arabian literature. His father, M. J. J. Sédillot, translated from the original Arabic the astronomical work of Abu'l-Hasan Ali, which was written in the thirteenth century, and this translation, in 1809, gained one of the great decennial prizes granted at Paris. His brother, M. Ch. Sédillot, wrote a history of the campaign of Constantine,—and he has himself contributed several valuable papers to the Journal Asiatique. In the valuable papers to the Journal Asiatique. In the volume before us he presents us with a manual of Arabian history,—the fruit of extensive reading and research. In a work necessarily so condensed there is, of course, but scanty room for description. Events are chronicled as concisely as possible, so that it is unnecessary to give lengthened extracts, when the only question that can be raised in according to the conditions of the latest the conditions of the latest according to the conditions of the latest according to the conditions of the latest according to the latest accord is one of truthfulness, not of style. In general, the correctness of M. Sédillot's facts cannot be imthe correctness of M. Sédillot's facts cannot be impugned. Occasionally, however, we perceive some inaccuracies. Thus, at page 161, the Arabs are said to have overrun the plains of Kashmir in the early part of the eighth century after Christ, whereas there is no solid ground for thinking that, at that time, they penetrated further than Multán. At the next page, in the account of Muhammad bin Kásim's death, the story of his accusation by Dabir's daughter, which is supported by the concurrent testimony of all Mohammedan writers, is omitted, and a different turn given to the narrative. At page 193, Yákûb is said to have been arrested by death, in the midst of his triumphant career, in 879, and his brother and successor to have made peace with Motamed, and obtained the recognition of his sovereignty, in 877. Nor can we accord our belief to what is said in the concluding chapters of the intrigues of the English oncluding chapters of the intrigues of the English in Arabia. That the British Government took the Wahabis into pay to oppose the League which M. Lascaris is said to have formed in Arabia, or that it made use of Lady Hester Stanhope's influence it made use of Lady Hester Stanhope's influence with the Bedouins for that purpose, is, we venture to aver, a mere fancy. Still less can we believe that a battle took place at Hamah, between 100,000 of the said Wahabis and 80,000 Arabs, in the French interest. These things wear too exaggerated an aspect. For the rest, M. Sédillot's book may, in general, be commended as a useful sum-mary of the progress and decline of Islam.

Remarks on the Right Hon. J. W. Croker's Review of the 'Memoirs of Thomas Moore,' in the Quarterly. By Nemesis. (Orr & Co.) — The readers of the Athenaum need not be reminded that Mr. Croker the Right Honourable, and Mr. Croker of antiquarian memory, appear to have been tormented with an active desire to lessen the fame and to darken the reputation of the Author of the "Irish Melodies." "Nemesis," fortifying his title-page with a slashing quotation from the Right Hon. Quarterly reviewer, thinks that there has been too much of this bitter work, and criticizes the critic in the little pamphlet before us. The intention is generous; and the execution is not amiss. "Nemesis," however, comes into court against an antagonist as implacable, and as court against an anagonist as implaced, and as full of quips and devices in the pursuance of his "pound of flesh" as Shylock's self,—at all events, these "Remarks" do not contain any such lightthese "Remarks" do not contain any such light-ning flash as *Portia's* point of law, whereby malice was silenced, and the whetted knife was stricken out of the hands of paralyzed revenge. There is little fear that Posterity will not be just to the Irish Melodist, with all his littleness on the surface,—also, to the Right Honourable reviewer, with all his greatness in the background.

Quicksands of Fashion. By Mrs. Martin Lucas. 3 vols. (Newby.)—Those who wish for plenty of incident and a complicated plot, with distressed And let us not forget the fact with which we set out:—the princely work, published under the auspices of royalty, has the honour of being introduced to the world by a preface rending distresses—all issuing, however, in vice

being punished and virtue rewarded,—may find in this novel their taste amply gratified. It is not remarkable for its probability or for its knowledge of human nature; but it hangs together, and is more readable and amusing than many

ledge of human nature; but it hangs together, and is more readable and amusing than many novels of greater pretension.

Married Women: a Novel. By the Author of 'Broomhill; or, Country Beauties.' 3 vols. (Newby.)—We have read this novel ourselves with much pleasure, and we have no doubt that many others will do the same. If rigidly criticized, the story will be found straggling:—it concerns too many people, who are all independent of each other, and do not work together to produce any unity of result. But, notwithstanding this, the book is extremely interesting, and, what is more, the tendency is healthy and unexceptionable. The characters are well and firmly drawn. Our favourite is little "Millie," the girl-wife of Capt. St. Clair Glenny; who, in his turn, is an excellent sketch, very like life. Some of the scenes evince quiet power and force of delineation, without ambitious straining after effect.

The Baths of France, Central Germany, and Switzerland. By Edwin Lee. (Churchill.)—Those who are seeking health by bathing in or drinking the mineral waters of France and Germany will find Mr. Lee's judicious notices of great value. The work will also serve as a guide to the medical man in directing his patients.

Mesmerism proved True. By the Rey Channey.

great value. The work will also serve as a guide to the medical man in directing his patients.
Mesmerism proved True. By the Rev. Chauncy Hare Townshend, A.M. (Bosworth.)—An article in a recent number of the Quarterly Review seems to have done considerable damage in public estimation to the so-called sciences of Mesmerism, Phreno-Mesmerism, Electro-Biology, and Odylism. The reviewer having pointed out in a very lucid manner the numerous errors into which the lucid manner the numerous errors into which the cultivators of these delusions had fallen, it was not to be expected that they would sit down quietly under the rebuke administered; and in this work the Rev. Chauncy Hare Townshend has undertaken to do battle on behalf of mesmerism. We cannot congratulate the reverend author on the tone and style of his volume, both alike incon-sistent with the dignity of science and the love of truth. It is very evident that the reviewer has indicated the method by which all the marvels of indicated the method by which all the marvels of mesmerism may be reduced to the laws which are known to regulate human thought and action. It is to this the mesmerists object. On the one hand, they have misinterpreted the facts presented to them; and on the other, been led away by the impositions of those they have operated on. They are ashamed to confess their weakness; and Mr. Townshend is only striving to be consistent in this protest against the reviewer's arguments. It is very clear, however, that he has neither the knowledge of the subject, nor the logical power, of the accomplished physiologist who is reputed to be the author of the offending review in the Quarterly.

St. Louis and Henry the Fourth; being a Series of Historical Sketches. By J. H. Gurney. (Longman & Co.)—Mr. Gurney undertakes to describe, for young persons, the events of great epochs, and

for young persons, the events of great epochs, and to surround the leading names of history with such accessories of incident and character as may suggest them correctly to the student's mind. In executing his task, he adopts an unassuming style, and tries rather to stimulate the attention of his reader than to imbue his mind with strong opinions and force a premature judgment on subjects at all times difficult and involved. His narrative of St. Louis's career is full of such details as are likely to interest those to whom it is addressed; while in his account of Henry the Fourth he has avoided the common error of school historians, and has not copied Voltaire, whose 'Henriade'—like his 'Life of Peter'—is a tissue of romantic eulogy. Mr. Gurney produces a more faithful portrait, though it is impossible not to feel that, while the true story, roughly told, is forgotten and neglected, one generation after another of readers will still be enticed, by a charming style, to Voltaire's pages, though their historical worthlessness has been acknowledged, and though the little sentimental sayings—the philanthropic epigrams—of the monarch have ceased to be balanced against his portentous acts of vice and cruelty. to interest those to whom it is addressed; while in

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Mary Howitt's Illustrated Library for the Young. Part I .- Human Habitations. (Cassell.)-This is an instructive and amusing work for little people. The illustrations are pretty, and the type is good. The price, we are glad to see, places it within the reach of poor men's children; and the pictures are such as may be copied by the nursery artist, with profit and pleasure, at the winter hearth.

The House that Jack Built Philosophically Considered and Practically Illustrated. (Cox & Co.) -There must be great paucity of invention when a person takes up such an old nursery rhyme as 'The House that Jack Built' to explain and illustrate without having some fancy to ingraft upon it or some moral to serve. The language here used is unsuited to the vocabulary of those children who are interested in the adventures of Jack's domestic animals, and the likenesses of these useful quadrupeds are anything but faithfully represented.

Something to Laugh at: a Book for all Circles and all Seasons. (Piper & Co.)—Most people will find 'Something to Laugh at' no laughing matter. It is evidently written for the "fast boys" of the day, and carries out its title, if coarseness be the same thing as fun. There is a "yarn," which will amuse those young gentlemen who have a fancy for nautical matters. The White Cloud and the Kick-o'-Ways is a very absurd exposition of the benefits of civilization to savages.

The Unspeakable; or, the Life and Adventures of a Stammerer. (Clarke & Beeton.)—This little book purports in its Preface to be an offering of gratitude from the author to Mr. Hunt, of Regent Street, who cured him of the habit of stammering, and whose system and mode of treatment he re-commends. The life and adventures form an exaggerated, distracted story, which, for literary merit, stands about upon a par with the poetical effusions of the poet attached to the establishment of Moses The only good point about the book is the description of the nervous suffering entailed by the consciousness of being liable to stammer.

The Roving Bee; or, a Peep into Many Hives. By the Author of 'Quicksands on Foreign Shores. Edited by Mrs. Whateley. (Nisbet & Co.)-An excellent little book, and one that may be a valuable present to young governesses at the outset of their career. The story is Irish, and the characteristic trials are Irish, — consequently, not exactly like those that would fall to the lot of a young lady in England; but the spirit and sense are admirable, and the counsel inculcated will be useful everywhere to those who are willing to accept it. Meanwhile, the Irish colouring and locality give the story a freshness and charm which will render it acceptable to the general reader.

The Moor of Venice, Cinthio's Tale, and Shak-speare's Tragedy. By I. E. Taylor. (Chapman & Hall.)-Mr. Taylor's version of Cinthio's Tale is neat and plain. Some of the brief dialogues are rendered with almost metrical euphony; but in the narration of incidents the simplicity of the old Italian is so preserved as to suggest less of the tragic than of the ridiculous, even in Desdemona's fate. It is superfluous to speculate now on the chances of a play, even of Shakspeare's, which should have retained the awkward machinery of Cinthio, and represented the Moor killing his wife, not with the pillow, but with a stocking full of sand. Such devices, however, were frequently made use of in the earlier romances of the South, and the description of the jealous husband and his accomplice fulfilling their design is not a shade more tragic than the instrument they employed. In fact, in the original tale, Othello is a vulgar assassin; and had Shakspeare done nothing but dress the Italian narrative in a dramatic form, the result might have justified Rymer in calling the piece "a bloody farce, without salt or savour." As it is, Shakspeare took little more than a suggestion from the nobleman of Venice. Mr. Taylor makes the most of his translation, and prefaces it by some intelligent criticisms on the comparative merits of the drama and of the romance.

We have also on our library-table a variety of books and pamphlets on religious subjects. these we can do little more than announce the names .- The Doctrines of the Bible developed in

the Facts of the Bible, by the Rev. S. Lewis, is an attempt to sum up the argument of Christian hisand to deduce from it a positive and formal creed.—In Scripture History, designed for the use of Young Persons, Miss Finch proceeds over the same historical ground, but by a more practical method, and brings her narrative, in a second part, as far as the last book of the Old Testament-An Introductory Sketch of Sacred History, being a Concise Digest of Notes and Extracts from the Bible, and from the works of Approved Authors, is more ambitious in plan and purpose. It professes, however, to be a compilation, from the pen of a "lay" writer. The matter is solid, and the treat-"lay" writer. The matter is solid, and the treatment judicious.—Connecting the past eras to which it refers, with the present and the future, the Rev. W. H. Johnstone writes Israel in the World; or, the Mission of the Hebrews to the Great Military Monarchies. In this the proposition is suggested, though somewhat illogically, that the Laws of the Jews were humane, because those of other nations were cruel. Mr. Johnstone advises the Jews to lend no money to despots, and arranges a plan for restoring them to Palestine, as a national and natural barrier against the Czar. However, he argues fairly, if not correctly.-It is in the miscellanies which touch on the more debateable ground of right and wrong, that we find dogmatism most wise in its own conceit. The dogmatism most wise in its own concert. The Anti-Sabbatarian Defenceless; or, the Sabbath established upon the Ruins of the Objections of its Enemies, is a furious tract, in which the Rev. J. G. Stewart sets up a notion of his own : first declares that he is infallible, anticipates all objections as "falsehoods," and then says, "Let us argue!" More rampant nonsense we have seldom met with. -Without at all approaching the discussion in which Mr. Herman Heinfetter enters in The Revealed History of Man, we may compliment him highly, in comparison with the above-named disputant, on the modest and candid tone adopted by him in his laborious, and sometimes learned, investigations.-Among controversies we have also a report of one of those useless Public Discussions between the Rev. B. Grant and G. J. Holyoake, held at Glasgow, in October, 1854. The substance is heavy, vague, and dull. It is a relief to turn from it to Mr. Latter's Burdens of the Church, which is at least vigorous, and meant to be satirical. The Church and Her Destinies, by James Biden, is, on the contrary, a profession from one who believes himself to have been intrusted with an important mission. Its seriousness is its only recommendation. - Archdeacon Law's Christ in All contains a series of florid discourses, addressed to the inhabitants of Weston-super-Mare. -We have, besides, The Good Fight: an Allegory, The Word, a Thought, a Prayer, Religion, its Sources, Character and Supports, by Caleb Webb, —and a Sermon, by Dean Elliott, of Bristol, on The Gunpowder Plot. It savours rather of war among men than of peace and good-will. The Dean leaves us doubtful whether or not he would amend the Liturgy, and expunge such terms as "hellish malice."—Parts I. and II. of Short Sermons for Family Reading have appeared, with Hymns for the Sundays and Holidays of the Year, by J. Fearn. Our popular hymns, as a body of verses, do little credit to English poetry. LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

Velasquez and his Works, by Stirling, 12mo. 5s. el. Works of Virgil rendered into English Rhythm, by Singleton, 9s. Wrightson's History of Modern Italy, post 8vo. 10s. 6d. cl.

ROYAL LITERARY FUND

On Wednesday was held the Annual General Meeting of the Literary Fund, with an attendance of literary celebrities rarely—if ever—seen before in the rooms of the Society. Sir R. H. INGLIS presided. Among the company were, Sir E. Bulwer Lytton, M.P., The Very Rev. the Dean of St. Paul's, Sir H. Ellis, Sir J. Forbes, Sir C. P. Roney, the Rev. Dr. Croly, Dr. Arnott, Dr. Roget, Dr. W. Smith, Messrs, C. Baldwin, E. Bell, Bentley, Birch, Bohn, J. Bruce, Chapman, Colburn, B. Corney, Cunningham, Charles Dickens, C. W. Dilke, C. Wentworth Dilke, Hepworth Dixon, J. Forster, Foss, Godwin, Graham, C. Grattan, Hardwicke, Holmes, Mark Lemon, Longman, Murray, Panizsi, J. W. Parker, and Pickersgill.

For the first time during many years, the public press was not turned to the door, and thus the public have been made aware that if the officers of the institution are well content with their administration, the members are by no means satisfied. From the report of the day's proceedings in the daily papers, we borrow some paragraphs illustrative of the feeling of the literary public, the subscribers to the Fund, and of the startling facts which the Athenœum has long and earnestly pressed on the attention of its readers.

After the statement of the accounts, which showed that the gross receipts of the year amounted to 2,119l. 10s. 2d., making, with 452l. 13s. 11d. (the balance in hand from previous year), 2,572*t*.
9s. 1d.;—the disbursements, 2,113*t*. 15s. 11d.,—that is, 1,470*t*. in grants for the relief of literary distress, and 643*t*. 15s. 11d. in expenses!—and leaving a balance in the banker's hands of 1781. , after making an additional investment of

280l. 10s. in purchase of stock,—
Mr. Dilke, as the daily papers report, said, that at the anniversary dinner of 1853, the chairman of that dinner, illustrating the advantages of man or that dimer, inustrating the salvantages of the Literary Fund, quoted three cases in which aid had been afforded to men of learning and genius, but he had been obliged to go back into-the last century for his examples. He even believed that these parties had been relieved twenty years before the founder of this Society (Mr. David Williams) died, and more than twenty years before the Society had a corporate existence. He should say a few words as to the economy with which this benevolence was granted. In 1802, it was stated in a Report issued by the Society, that all the offices were discharged gratuitously, except those of collector and messenger, —and it was very natural that it should be so. It was the policy of the founder, that all the offices of the Society should be gratuitously filled. In 1802 all the duties of the Society were discharged gratuitously, except those of the collector and the porter. In 1805, by the exertions and economy of the founder, its funds were increased to 6,000l., with an income of 800l. per annum. Their founder then presented to the Prince Regent a memorial praying for a place of abode for the Society near the Palace. The Prince did not give them that; but instead of doing so, he charged the revenues of the Duchy of Cornwall with a sum of 2301. per annum to defray house-rent and taxes. That grant of course expired on the death of the Prince. The moment that grant expired, he contended, the Society ought to have contracted its expenditure to something like the amount which it stood at before the grant was obtained; more especially as it had not carried out any of the objects which the founder evidently had in view, since in his petition to the Prince Regent he dwelt upon the advantages that could be derived from such a house, which should contain a library of books and manuscripts, and should attract the subscribers as to a common centre of communication and action. The founder hoped that the institution might one day become a college for decayed and superannuated genius—the most pitiable of all objects. If that common centre for literary men had been established, Mr. Dilke was

of opinion it would have been one of the most

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beneficial things to literature and to literary men that was ever projected. In 1840 the duties of the registrars were set down; and it was arranged that a registrar should attend every general meet-ing of the Council and the General Committee, that they should take minutes of the business transacted, and of the orders made at each meettransacted, and of the orders made at each meeting, and that they should superintend the correspondence of the Society. Now, if the registrars performed that duty without remuneration, what was there for any one else to do? The Committee met nine times a year. There were three registrars, and, if they divided the labours between them, each registrar would have three meetings to attend, each meeting occupying about two hours. The first assistance which the registrars applied for was for a clerk at 40l. per annum. The clerk had now grown to a secretary, and the 40l. a year had become 200l., while the same duty had been for years performed for the Artists' General Benevolent Fund for 50l. The Committee of that Society met in a room at the Artists General Benevolent Fund for 50%. The Committee of that Society met in a room at the Freemasons' Tavern, which they paid for, and thus avoided a charge for house-rent; and, as the Committee met twelve times a year, the remuneration to the Secretary of the Artists' Fund was about 41.4s. a day, which he thought ample. He knew that the comparison he had on former occasions insti-tuted between the Literary Fund and the Artists' Benevolent Fund had been met by the answer, that the latter was a fund for the relief of members subscribing to another fund for the widows and orphans of members, and, therefore, that no preliminary inquiry was necessary. Now, he could not admit that distinction, for, if the Committee of the Literary Fund properly represented the literary character of this country, they would have some knowledge of men of genius and learning, and he could not, therefore, admit the necessity for this previous inquiry, which led to so large an expenditure of the Society's funds. But he would give up the Artists' Benevolent Fund, and he would take the Artists' General Benevolent Fund, between which and the Literary Fund there was no difference whatever. That fund was subscribed for artists generally, and he was sure there was a much difficulty of inquiry in the one case as in the other. Collector's poundage (a per-centage on the money collected), advertisements, and expenses attending the anniversary dinner—charges which involved questions of policy and management, and were therefore open to discussion—he had omitted, and the comparison was confined to the cost, in each case, of like things; salary with salary, rent with rent, miscellaneous charges with miscellaneous charges. Mr. Dilke then read the following sum-

L	ITERA	RY]	Fund.			ARTI		GENER.		ENE	vo-
1844, 31	applie	eant	srelie	vec	lat	55	app	licants	reliev	red	at
	a cos	t of	£535	6	10			cost of			9
1845, 38			466	16	2	43			82	8	10
1846, 46			515	13	7	42			87	7	11
1847, 38			504	5	9	55			106	19	2
1848, 50			498	11	10	54			86	5	0
1849, 41			527	18	4	57			88	8	5
1850, 38			496	11	0	69			86	13	8
1851, 51			528	14	6	63			83	8	4
1852, 49			513	17	8	56			101	13	8
1853, 47			506	4	5	65			85	14	4
429		£	5,094	0	1	559			£904	17	1

—In other words, every draft drawn for the benefit of applicants for the Society's aid cost 11l. 17s., in addition to the sum voted by the Com-mittee for their relief. He then moved the follow-

"That, whereas during the ten years from 1844 to 1853, both inclusive, the cost of assisting 429 applicants to the Literary Fund amounted to 5,094l. 0s. 1d. (exclusive of collector's poundage, advertisements, and expenses attending the anniversary dinner); and whereas the cost of assisting 559 applicants to the Artists' General Benevolent Fund, within the same ten years, amounted to 9041. 17s. 1d. (also exclusive of collector's poundage, advertisements, and expenses attending the anniversary dinner); this meeting is of opinion that the expenses of managing the Literary Fund are unreasonable and enormous, and that a great change must be made in the administration of its affairs."

Sir EDWARD BULWER LYTTON seconded this re- | solution, which was sustained by twenty-eight votes against thirty-two—the former consisting, as far as we could ascertain, chiefly of the outside literary Members; the latter, chiefly of the Committee themselves. This vote was, in fact, a much stronger condemnation of the past system than the warmest friends of reform had dared to hope: -such a minority being equal to a large majority

—such a minority being equal to a large majority under ordinary circumstances, and quite sufficient for the practical objects of the literary reformers.

On the question for the appointment of officers for the year being put, Mr. C. Wentworth Dilke said, he thought a Society like the Literary Fund ought to have at its head a literary man, and he would, therefore, propose to invest the name of would, therefore, propose to insert the name of Mr. Hallam, as President, in the place of the Marquis of Lansdowne, who was proposed fo rreelection by the Committee.

The DEAN of St. PAUL'S :- Have you the con-

The DEAN of ST. PAUL'S:—Have you the consent of Mr. Hallam to put him in nomination?

Mr. DILKE replied in the negative, stating that he did not think it of any importance, as this was a question not of persons, but of principle.

Mr. C. DICKENS said, he did not care whether Mr. Hallam did or did not serve. The question was not one of men, but of principle. What he and those who acted with him contended for was, that this below I transmission. that this, being a Literary Society, should be in the hands of literary men; and that no other per-

son had any business there.

The DEAN of St. Paul's did not think that the administration of the affairs of the Society should be confined exclusively to those who had published

The CHAIRMAN objected to the Literary List being handed round, on the ground that it had not been previously laid on the table. Some confusion hereupon arose, it being physically impos-sible for all the Members to get pens and ink to score the names out of the Official List, and enter those of their own candidates, as the Chairman suggested. The voting papers were gathered in during the confusion,—and, of course, the Official List was returned. This was, indeed, of only secondary consequence,—the object of the literary men being gained with the strong assertion of a principle sure to be victorious in the end.

Mr. C. DICKENS rose to move a resolution respecting the reconstruction of the Charter. He said he should in a few words give his reasons.

said he should, in a few words, give his reasons said ne should, in a few words, give his reasons for thinking it necessary to re-incorporate the Society under a new charter. He thought the present charter so absurdly ridiculous, so pre-posterous, that it ought at once to be abandoned by every man of sound mind and understanding. Whether it was in construction legal or illegal he did not know, but this he did know, that it was sheer nonsense, and, therefore, he thought it ought to be abandoned. He need not remind them, he said, that about seven years ago the literary powers of the Literary Fund ascertained that for thirty years before all their proceedings had been illegal.

The Members bestirred themselves in an extraordinary manner for the purpose of reconciling their acts, if possible, with the outraged majesty of the law; and the result was, that one of the governing bodies called the Council, which conceived it had a right to sit and vote with the General Committee, was thenceforward understood to be for ever banished from the light of the General Committee's countenance. Now, before he followed this Council into its extraordinary position in space, let him inquire how both bodies came into existence. The charter declared that the Council and the General Committee, the President and so forth, were to have the entire direction and management of the affairs of the institution, and in the next paragraph the charter referred to the meeting of Council, clearly expressing in homely English that the Council should meet, and should have as much share in the business as the General Committee or the other officers. This intention Committee or the other omcers. Inis intention the charter expressed by requiring that every member of the body—"the potent, grave, and reverend signiors"—should meet and discuss every question brought before them during the year. Now, this Council being thus in express terms constituted and limited, he hoped the meeting

would excuse him for suggesting that, out of the Literary Fund and the two large establishments of St. Luke's and Bedlam, no one could doubt that the Council ought to have a real existence, and ought to have something to do. Had it a real existence, and had it anything to do? He could appeal to his own knowledge and experience. He had had the honour of being elected a member, and of retiring from it when he found it out. Having, in the first instance, retired from the General Committee, he received a letter from the Secretary asking whether he should like to be a member of the Council. He pictured to himself a set of sages peaceably meeting to regulate the pecuniary expenditure by a profuse expenditure of the midnight oil. So much was he impressed with the impressed with the importance of his new function, that for some months he never left home without leaving word where he was to be found, in hopes that the word where he was to be found, in hopes that the Council might want him, but he found that they got on without requiring his assistance. He then asked, when they did meet what they had to do, and found to his inexpressible amazement that they never had, never could have, anything to do. with anything in all creation. They had, in short, no purpose nor object in existence. Now, he asked, what would the public think of such a mode of doing business in any other institution? What would people say to directors who were not to direct, or judges who were not to judge? Imagine a physician who was never to prescribe, or a surgeon who must not set a bone. Conor a surgeon who must not set a bone. Conceive a corps of firemen enjoined never to go within fifty miles of a fire, or officers of the Humane Society directed by a bye-law not to approach the water. That was the case with the Council at the present moment, while the charter called it a governing body which was to have the entire management of the institution. He subentire management of the institution. He sumited to the Meeting that such practices would not be tolerated in any other institution. It was wrong in a public institution having control over large sums subscribed for certain objects; first, because there should be nothing like a false pre-tence in such an institution, leaving it open to suspicion; secondly, because a continued endurance of this phenomenon would lead to the conclusion, either that it was used to shelve incompatible members of the committee, or to prop up the faults of the committee with the names of men who had nothing to do with them. He submitted, therefore, that the charter was utterly defective and rotten, inasmuch as it appointed a governing body, the Council, specifying its duties, while the latter never could discharge the duties solemnly confided to it by the charter. He hoped, perhaps not at the present moment, but certainly at some future one, to have this matter set right. Mr. Dickens concluded by moving "That whether the General Committee's construction of the existing General Committees construction of the existing charter be legal or illegal (as to which there are differences of opinion), it is manifestly absurd, as constituting a body expressly to be elected from members of the General Committee, with at least three years' experience, called a Council, to which it confides no powers and no duties, and which it confides no powers and no duties, and which never meets, because it cannot even be called never meets, because it cannot even be called together by any authority for any purpose. And that it is, therefore, desirable to apply for a new charter, and that a Committee be specially appointed with this object, with instructions to report the result of their labours to a general meeting to be convened for this purpose. That such Committee be composed of the following members:—The President, The Very Rev. the Dean of St. Paul's, B. W. Procter, Esq., Sir Edward Bulwer Lytton, John Forster, Esq., W. M. Thackeray, Esq., Charles Dickens, Esq., Robert Bell, Esq., The Rev. G. R. Gleig, C. W. Dilke, Esq., Sir H. Ellis, Sir J. Forbes, and Messrs. Tooke and Auldjo."

Mr. J. FORSTER seconded the resolution; which, after some conversational discussion, was unani-

after some conversational discussion, was unani-

mously agreed to.

This Committee, under the sanction of any general meeting to which it may think right to appeal, has before it the arduous and honourable task of re-organizing the Society on better and broader grounds—of reviving the beneficent and

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economical action of the founder—and of rescuing a noble institution from all those abuses of times and persons which are so apt to gather round our best charities.

PICTORIAL COPY-RIGHT AND COPY-WRONG.

On the question raised in the police court by the complaint of Mr. Ward, we have received a number of suggestions more or less practical, as it seems to us, from artists and lawyers:—but the question has many sides, and its just and equitable settlement is, we fear, as yet far off. The wrong in Mr. E. M. Ward's case is not peculiar. Few artists of name and place are free from the competition of spurious copies of their own works ;copies which are sold as originals, both by private dealers and in public auctions. No one will for dealers and in public auctions. No one will for an instant say that this is right; but who, on the other side, will affirm that pictures of established fame shall not be copied by the young artist—by the student anxious to improve his style, his draw-ing, or his handling? Yet, if pictures may be copied, it is abourd to contend that the copies may not be sold for whatever they are worth; and, once the sale of these copies is allowed, false description or assertion of authorship is left to the conscience of the dealer or possessor. A government stamp has been proposed, -which, to a certain extent, would guard the authenticity of a picture, as registration guards the copyright of a book. One of our Correspondents says, on this proposal :

tration guards the copyright of a book. One of our Correspondents says, on this proposal:—

"The idea of fixing a stamp to pictures, suggested by Mr. Darvill, had previously occurred to me,—and I think it might be made a means of effectually preventing the continued and gross impositions on the public now so successfully carried upon the back of the canvas; that the stamp by which the impression is made should have moveable types, so as to have the advantage of printing the subject or title of the picture, with a blank space lefs for the artist to write his same and the date, together with that of the government official whe makes the impression: added to which, a warranty might be given, to accompany the picture at all times, into whosever hands it might pass. That no stamp be given, but upon the personal application of the artist. And likewise, for further satisfaction that he is the painter of that picture, it be necessary that he should send a notice to the authorities, shortly before the picture is finished, of dis intention to apply for a stamp, that some one from the office may identify both him and the picture. Other suggestions might be proposed with regard to artists in the country, but sufficient have been fireyon out 3t present for your opinion, and to call forth the observations of others. Of course it would not be fair to make this compulsory upon artists; they ought still to be at liberty to sell their pictures without the stamp if they pleased; but such a means of protection might be made available by those who dealer it. If the above plan, or something to the same effect, were carried out by an act of parliament, all the difficulties at present attending the prosecution of dishonesty would vanish; for when it became publicly known that an artist invariably stamped his pictures, no one would purchase a picture without the stamp, while to initate it would be an act of felony."

Names it is well known, are constantly written

Names, it is well known, are constantly written on pictures to mislead; and it is a question whether the possession of a spurious picture, having a forged name, would not subject the possessor to a penalty at law.

As regards the particular case of Mr. Ward's picture, the solicitor, Mr. Darvill, tells the following story,—which we bring before our readers on his authority, that the whole body of essential facts may be under their eyes for judgment.—

facts may be under their eyes for judgment.—

"When I appeared on Monday last before Mr. Hardwick, to state the facts connected with the spurious copy of Mr. E. M. Ward's picture now in the market, I did so for the purpose of drawing public attention to the circumstance, and with a view to some ultimate enactment for the protection of artists and collectors. I stated that Mr. Ward, in 1851, sold to Mesars. Melton & Clark a picture of James II., which was a copy made by the artist himself from his original picture in the possession of Mr. Jacob Bell. I also stated that a spurious copy of that picture had subsequently been sold, and was alleged to be an original picture by Mr. Ward. I see by the Daily News of the 8th and 9th instant, that Mr. Melton, of the firm of the 8th and 9th instant, that Mr. Melton, of the firm of Clark & Melton, seeks to wash his hands of any suspicion, by asserting that he did not sell the picture to Mr. Pashall, and by stating that the picture had not been with his firm a sufficient time to make a copy, even had they been desirous of doing so (?). Now, as Mr. Melton has exhibited peculiar insocence in reference to the spurious picture to Mesers. Clark & Melton—they sold it to Mr. Agrew, of Manchester, who, through his agent, Mr. Chester, sold it to Mr. Pashall, and the as remained in his valuable collection ever since, and has even been touched up by Mr. Ward since Mr. Pashall, and the as remained in his valuable collection ever since, and has even been touched up by Mr. Ward since Mr. Pashall sequired it. Mr. Ward never pained more than two pictures of 'James the Second receiving Intelligence of

the Landing of the Prince of Orange. One of them was the original, sold to Mr. Jacob Bell; and the other, the artist's copy, sold to Mears. Clark & Melton, and now in the possession of Mr. Pashall. Dates are now material. Last year (1854) Mr. Melton took a spurious copy of the picture I have alluded to, having considerable merit, to a most respectable party in Bond Street, connected with the picture by Mr. Ward for 70%. The party was astonished at the price, and proposed to purchase if Mr. Melton would let him have the picture to show to Mr. Ward for verification; but Mr. Molton declined doing so, alleging that the picture be-longed to a gentlaman at some hotel, who would not part with it for any time out of his possession. The party in Bond Street to whom I have alluded saw Mr. Ward, and informed him of the circumstances, and stated how clever the copy really was, and that the lowness of the price alone had raised his suspicious; had the picture been an original, it would have been worth 350% instead of 70%, although a small sized copy. Mr. Melton, however, last year sold the spurious copy to Mr. Creswick, who sold it to the highly respectable picture-decler in Berners Street, Mr. Gambart, who again parted with it to Mr. Lloyd, the publisher, who sold it to a dealer in Liverpool. From the above fact, it is clear that there were three pictures of the same subject in existence—two originals ory have Mr. Ward, and one spurious copy. The two originals I have traced, and one of them is now the property of Mr. Pashall. The third—the spurious copy—I have traced into the possession of a Manchester picture-dealer; but it it certainly remarkable, that the artist's original copy and the spurious copy.

HENEY DARVILL"

We understand that Mr. Darvill—who adds a deep respect for Art to a knowledge of law and an energetic temperament—means to pursue the subject of these spurious reproductions of good pictures until he has embodied his experience and sagacity in an act of parliament. No penalty can be awarded that will over-punish fraudulent dealers in works the very purpose of which is to purify and adorn.

ON THE LIABILITY OF THE MAGNETIC CONDITION OF IRON SHIPS TO RAPID OR SUDDEN CHANGES.

III. The effect of the principles referred to and elucidated in the former part of this paper [ante, p. 292] is, as has been shown, to produce a special arrangement of the retentive magnetism developed in iron ships by the mechanical violence applied to their materials whilst building, with its polar axis in the oblique direction of the dipping needle; to change this direction, after the ships are launched, whenever mechanical action is applied in new directions of the ships' heads; and so as ultimately to tend to produce a normal position in the polar axis vertical to the keel.

The operation of the same principles, under the violent mechanical action to which ships are sometimes subjected at sea, must, as may easily be shown, inevitably tend, when terrestrial induction may be acting in complete discordance with the existing magnetic distribution of the ship, to disturb (for a time) the normal condition into which the general magnetism may have happened to be shaken down.

This brings us to the consideration of the general proposition already enunciated, and here professed to be maintained—that all iron ships are liable to rapid or sudden changes in their magnetic condition, and so to compass disturbances.

For the satisfactory discussion of this point, it will be important to attain to some definite understanding of the exact question at issue. My proposition is-That whilst new ships, previous to the attainment of the normal magnetic axis, are specially liable to rapid or sudden changes of large amount, all iron ships, under certain conditions of position, mechanical force, &c., are liable to similar, though not to so great changes,—yet to changes, it may be, of so large an amount in compass deviation as may subject the unsuspecting navigator to the most imminent danger. Mr. Airy, as more distinctly shown in his first paper, denies this; and takes, as I understand it, something like this position,-that if changes do occur, these (taken in connexion with his process of compass adjustment) are, in the northern hemi-sphere, unimportant, and in no substantiated case amount to a quantity likely to involve danger. If this be a fair statement of our two positions, as I have most honestly endeavoured to express them, then the points at issue are reducible to two of a very intelligible nature, -the quantity of change to

which the compass is liable, and the frequency or infrequency of the larger quantity.

Personally, my views here are, that changes, sudden or rapid, as great as from two to four points, may occur, and do occasionally occur, in compasses, having large original deviations, in new iron ships; and that changes, extending from half a point to two points, if not more, may occur, and in not a few bave occurred, in iron ships not being new. Mr. Airy's views as to quantity of probable or possible change can only be safely given in his own words; and fortunately in his first paper [Athen. Oct. 28, p. 1304, IV.] we have these views very distinctly stated. Referring, objectingly, to my paper on the 'Loss of the Tayleur,' given at the meeting of the British Association, Mr. Airy says, "The question at issue is the very abstract one, Is it likely that in two days the magnetism of a ship could be so much changed that the compass would be disturbed through an angle of two points? I unhesitatingly answer, it is not likely; and, speaking with our present knowledge on the subject, it is not possible. I conceive the causes pointed out by Dr. Scoresby to be wholly inadequate to produce such a rapid change. And I aver that there is no known instance of such a change; and I do not believe I add the italics merely for guidance to the reader that an instance can be produced of a rapid change of one-fourth or one-tenth part of this amount;" that is, reduced to degrees, not a change of five-and-three-quarters, or even two-and-a-quarter de-

Happily, the differences here betwixt us, as to the amount of compass changes, are so exceedingly great, and the appeal to facts so specific, that no difficulty could be reasonably apprehended of our being enabled to come to some conclusive result on the question:—and difficulty there is now.

the question;—and difficulty there is none.

The appeal is to actual cases and facts, which we, on our side of the argument, are challenged to produce. And such cases and facts, bearing on the general question [under circumstances that have been specified in 'Magnetical Investigations,' vol. ii. pp. 342, 394, 411, 432, and 'Letter to Underwriters,' pp. 33—39] of the liability to rapid or sudden compass changes in iron ships, will be found to be by no means so meagre as has been supposed. And in recalling attention to facts, I may properly correct a mistake into which Mr. Airy has fallen, of supposing that the assumed meagreness of my previously adduced cases afforded any measure of the proportion of available or attainable evidence. My opportunities, except when at Liverpool last autumn, were by no means favourable for getting the desirable information; and when at Liverpool I was mainly engaged in research-s on the actual magnetic conditions of iron ships,—of the results of which I regret to find Mr. Airy speaking so lightly. Recently, however, I have given more attention to this particular inquiry,—the results of which I now, sketchily, adduce. But not to elaborate differences as to the precise applicability of the several cases, I give them in a general list, re-stating the cases from the beginning, with as few words of explanation as may conveniently serve for their intelligibleness and authority.

ently serve for their intelligibleness and authority.

1. The case of the Imperador [Athen. Dec. 16, p. 1526, col. 2], where a change in the original inclination of the polar axis towards the starboard side, had, undoubtedly, taken place betwixt the moment of launching and her equipment for sea,

of above 10°, or rather say, about 12°.

2. The case of the Ripon, on which Mr. Airy comments so slightingly in an appeal to the reader [Athen. Feb. 3, p. 146, c. 3], is not to be dismissed as evidence, though "the change in the compass was [only] between two and three degrees"; for the reader will find on referring to Mr. Airy's own words, quoted near the head of this section, that this amount of change is within the limit of the challenge of proof, and within a limit, too, in the special case, which, had it occurred in thick weather, might have been fatal to the safety of the ship.

3. The case of the Tayleur, where, on the evidence of the master, first mate, and carpenter, taken before three competent courts of inquiry, and the results of two of them published in returns made to Parliament, proof is given by them of a change, occurring within about two days, of two

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points, or thereabout, in the indications of two 'adjusted compasses. The evidence here is that "adjusted compasses." The evidence here is that of actual observers of the fact, certified by the endenyour to find out the cause of the perplexing difference by shifting the cards, and set forth as conclusive, both by Capt. Walker, R.N. and the Local Marine Board at Liverpool, in their respective Reports to the Board of Trade!

4. The case of the Ottawa [Athen. Dec. 9. p.

4. The case of the Ottawa [Athen. Dec. 9, p. 1415], where a change of about two points was produced by the stroke of a sea,—an incident which, whilst commenting upon it, Mr. Airy admits, "deserves the most careful inquiry."

Here we come to new evidence, and, introductory to its production, I would recall the attention of the reader to these particulars,—that I am here showing the general fact of rapid or sudden and considerable compass changes, the contradictiontion. considerable compass changes (in contradistinction to very small and slow changes, or those requiring much time),—and that I adduce, first, actual cases, and then opinions of witnesses, such as those re-ferred to by Mr. Airy and others. For certain cases, for similar reasons as those entertained by Mr. Airy, I find it expedient to use mere reference

Mr. Airy, I and it expedient to use mere reference letters instead of actual names; but in any of these cases, should Mr. Airy wish it, I will communicate to him confidentially the facts and particulars by which the cases may be thoroughly sifted.

5. The case of the Tiber, three years in use, where, after a recent collision, which changed one of the adjusted compasses (a change which gradually subsided) to an extent of two points and a half. This case has, I believe been well invest. half. This case has, I believe, been well inves-tigated by a "compass inquiry committee," now

sitting at Liverpool.
6. The recent case of the ship X, which was thrown out of her course by a sudden and unex-plained change in the binnacle compass, to the extent of an angle of about five points, occasioning, according to measurements on a tracing of the track-chart now before me, an error of the ship's position in one day's run, nearly equal to the breadth of Ireland!

7. The case of the Teneriffe steamer, whose magnetism underwent "a strange change"; the ship having "changed her magnetism in coming home a point and a half."—[Evidence of Mr. John Gray, adjuster of compasses at Liverpool, published in the Report to the Board of Trade of the

Ished in the Report to the Board of Trade of the Local Marine Board, p. 9.]

8. The case of the Rattler comprises what is described in the evidence referred to in No. 7 as another "strange change"; the compass having changed (rapidly, as seems to be implied) a point.

9. The case of the Pampero, described by Mr. Airy's correspondent "B." [Athen. Feb. 3, p. 1423, p. 1423

under question 6], where a change of 6°, more than half a point, was "produced in a short experi-mental trip!"

10. The case of the Hayti, of Glasgow, swung under the direction of Mr. James Napier, and again swung, after being towed to Gourock Bay (some ten leagues down the Clyde, in a direction at about right angles with her position in building), when the deviations, by two unadjusted compasses, were found to be altogether different. In one were found to be altogether different. In one compass, the effect of this short remove, with an incidental gale, and an interval only of two or three days of time, was to alter the deviations up to three quarters of a point, and, in the other, to above a point!

11. In the case of the new ship Y, two com-passes, very carefully adjusted just before sailing, were found on the first day after leaving port to

differ 6° on a west course.

12. The case of the City of Philadelphia, whose loss on her first passage across the Atlantic occa-sioned so much anxious speculation as to the cause, affords an unquestionable example of rapid magnetic change: a change such that, whilst one out netic change: a change such that, whilst one out of three or four compasses was stated to be correct, the whole, as indicated by such evidence as has yet been made public, exhibited among themselves the most perplexing differences.

As to the opinions of persons experienced in compass adjustments, I might gather a fair set off against those adduced by Mr. Airy. One official person voluntarily stated to me as a fact he was prepared to prove, that no adjustment of compasses

could be effected so as to stand within half a point where the original deviations extended to about two points, or within twice or thrice that amount with very large deviations.—But I will not extend the consideration of this quality of evidence.

These various cases may surely be appealed to as amply sufficient for the determination of the chief questions at issue betwixt Mr. Airy and myself; conclusively, I believe, against the views already quoted on the smallness of any sudden or arready quoted on the small states of any studen or rapid magnetic changes; and strongly, I think, in support of my own views, that such changes are far from being infrequent, even to an extent cal-culated to involve much danger to the unwarned navigator. If the cases now adduced are still far from being numerous, they are not the less con-clusive on the actual question. And it is to be noted, that information on these points is not easy to be got at,—and of cases, no doubt in-numerable, which do occur, but few are observed. A stroke of the sea takes place in a heavy gale, and, most usually, in the open ocean, where a temporary derangement of the compass is of little consequence; it takes place when the compasses are generally unsteady, and attention to corrective celestial observations are impracticable. Thousands of sudden changes may, under such circumstances, occur without one being noticed. And, as the tendency of a ship's magnetism is always to return to the normal condition, the derangement for the time, acted on by changes of course, the rolling of the ship, &c., is gradually reduced and commonly, perhaps, almost entirely obliterated before the arrival of the ship in port. This fact, previously deduced from theory, has variety of proof. It was proved in the case of the Ottawa, the Tiber, and several others; and will generally so be found, except in cases where the proper normal position of the ship's polar axis had not previously been attained. Hence, we find, that the evidence attained. Hence, we find, that the evidence against observed changes, obtained from the adjusters of compasses at home, becomes almost entirely negative. It proves only, with whatever integrity and completeness it might be designed to be given, that the ship's compasses, which were corrected at starting, were found, as to any material inaccuracies, the same on the return to port. But it shows nothing, nor can it, of changes such as those of the Ottawa, the Tiber, and of whole fleets of iron ships, in which, in the Southern hemisphere, the compass adjustments were found hemisphere, the compass adjustments were found useless; the tendency to restore the normal condition,—aided by renewed applications of vibra-tion, straining, or shocks of the sea, under favour-ably-acting terrestrial induction,—having sufficed to obliterate the deflexions of the ship's magnetic axis and to bring the greatly-wandering compasses right again!

There is yet a further evidence and proof, just to be noticed, of the proposition now being main-tained,—as to the fact of iron ships being liable to rapid or sudden changes,-from which, as to me it seems, there can be no appeal : and this evidence is seems, there can be no appeal: and this evidence is afforded by the varying indications of two or more adjusted compasses, acting as tell-tales on each other. My opportunities of applying this test, indeed, are but very few, as no comparative statements, except only in three cases, have yet come before me, and only one of these in a distinctly continuous tabular form. In this instance, where continuous taoutar form. In this missance, where two compasses had been carefully adjusted by fixed magnets, and their indications, along with those of a compass aloft, examined by an excellent observer almost daily, the rapidity of the magnetic changes, even on courses far from being those likely to show a maximum, was sufficiently striking. very day of sailing, as I have already noticed, there was a difference of 6° on a west course, reduced to 2° or 3° on going south-west. After

shows either that the principle of adjustment must be wrong, (for I happen to know that it was well and carefully applied,) or the ship's magnetism must have rapidly changed,—or rather, perhaps, that both these suppositions were correct. If the captains of ships, having more than one compass adjusted, would keep comparative registers of their indications daily, yery important results. their indications daily, very important results bearing on these inquiries would be soon and con-

clusively supplied by this test alone.

But if such be the facts as to changes of the ship's magnetism, as has been argued, how is it that our iron ships go safe at all? Their measure of safety, as indicated by the rates of insurance, is not because of their compasses being correct or not liable to incidental changes, but in spite of their errors: captains are now well warned, so as, in using their compasses for general guidance, not to trust them in special circumstances. In ships proceeding far into southern latitudes, their adjusted steering compasses are notoriously wont to go wrong, and frequently to become useless; but by watchfulness and tact in the navigator, with the now increasing guidance from a compass aloft, these ships prevalently make rapid and safe pas-

It is not my intention to discuss further the at is not my intention to discuss further the question of change, which in some measure is inevitable in the retentive magnetism of ships when proceeding into the southern hemisphere,—though on such change was grounded my objection (still adhered to) to the mode of compass adjustment by fixed magnets which I originally submitted to the British Association at Oxford in 1847. Yet it may not be unuseful to notice a remark of Mr. Airy's in his last paper in the Athenœum (p. 147, col. 3) with reference to the admitted changes in col. 3) with reference to the admitted changes in compass action in southern regions, where he says, "I do not imagine that in any of these cases the sub-permanent [or retentive] magnetism has undergone any particular change." And this opinion I notice for the purpose of guidance and information as to the actual fact, by referring to a communication at the last meeting of the British Association (On a Graphic Mathod of Correcting the Desistion On a Graphic Method of Correcting the Deviation of a Ship's Compass,' in which the investigations of the author—a gentleman having admirable opportunities of obtaining facts, and with the highest mathematical acquirements for applying -went distinctly to prove a change taken place in the retentive magnetism of certain ships, whose deviation-registers had been duly kept and examined, when sailing far to the southkept and examined, when salling far to the south-ward. As to the quantity of such change, or its proportion to the yet unchanged quantity when the observations were made, I am not prepared positively to speak; but I believe the proportion was far from inconsiderable, or, as my recollection serves, equal to about a fourth part of the original intensity.

IV. As to the results of this and other dicussions IV. As to the results of this and other dicussions in which I have been engaged in respect to the general question—as to the best means of overcoming the embarrassments from compass disturbances, and of promoting a higher degree of affects in the navigation of iron ships—it is very satisfactory to find that good, to an obvious and practical extent, has been already attained. And evidence of this, of no slight force, is afforded by observable results of the present discussion, especially in the results of the present discussion, especially in the arrival of Mr. Airy with myself, after all other differences, at the same practical remedy,—that which from the first I have been continually urging,—of the carrying of a reference compass-aloft. And this plan of a compass placed on a mast—duly arranged so as to be free from iron in the form of rigging or cross-trees—and elevated as far above the general disturbing influences of the body of the vessel as the case, individually, may need, will be found, there is no doubt, as effective

duced to 2° or 3° on going south-west. After eleven days the difference on a south-west course became again 6°; and in the next four days, whilst going in a more favourable direction, the differences occurring betwixt the latitudes of 15° 16′ and 7° 27′ N. The third day, after crossing the equator, a difference of 14° was registered.

This case, a favourable one, I believe, for the compass adjustments, — the original deviations having been very moderate, — of itself sufficiently

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such compass, and the employment of it only or mainly for reference and correction of the steering compass, as proposed by Mr. Airy, are circumstances of perfect accordance with the original plan, where I carried my elevated compass at the plan, where I carried my elevated compass at the mast-head. In certain cases, however, I have found, practically, that a much lower elevation, subject to less vibration and swinging, and more convenient for observation, would do. And, in any case, it is important again to notice what, in my 'Letter to the Liverpool Underwriters' (pp. 46, 27) I have largely aluvidated —that (pp. 46-57), I have largely elucidated,—that a moderate elevation, such as one of 30 to 50 feet, is sufficient for the attainment of vast practical advantages in the way of safety as to compass guidance. At such an elevation, the amount of deviating action on the deck compasses will generally be found to be reduced to a small, if not an unimportant, quantity—a quantity, at any rate, which can easily and safely be corrected by a Table of Deviations, and such table very nearly adjusted for changes of magnetic latitude, according to the "Instructions" by Mr. Archibald Smith. And besides this obvious gain in reducing the quantity of compass error, there are other advantages of the highest importance which are realized by the elevated compass; for on such compass, as I have elsewhere shown, the seriously disturbing effects of heeling on the deck compasses are not felt,-and besides this, the otherwise dangerous effects of sudden changes in the direction of the ship's magnetic polar axis, exerts no disturbing

influence of any practical moment.

Hence we find reason for much congratulation with those interested in iron ships, in the progress evidently made in the right direction towards the attainment of effective compass guidance. Mr. Airy's present proposal for correcting the aberrations of compass adjustments in the southern hemisphere, should naturally give support to the plan of a compass aloft for general practice and utility, with the large body of navigators who have availed themselves of his compensating process. And that process, as I have always been ready to state when the subject has been discussed, may still be employed, under due cautions, with considerable convenience in the navigation of iron ships in the northern hemisphere; whilst my plan, appealed to now, and proposed to be superadded the talented originator of the popular method of compass adjustments (which already, indeed, is making rapid way amongst iron shipping), will ultimately, I doubt not, become universal, and so safety in the highest attainable degree to this fine class of our merchant navy,—so far as it depends on the compass,—may be confidently looked for. William Scoresby.

OUR WEEKLY GOSSIP.

Dr. Daubeny, it is said, proposes shortly to resign the Chair of Chemistry at Oxford.

On Wednesday evening the students of London University College gave a soirée to the members of King's and the affiliated colleges, and to a select circle of distinguished men of letters and artists,and did the honours and hospitalities of the evening very gracefully. The walls were hung with choice specimens of Art, including Mr. David Roberts's sketches in Spain, Mr. Goodall's drawings, Mr. Mayall's collodion portraits, and on the tables were disposed numerous bronzes, crosses, cups, and other interesting objects. A concert, in which MM. Ernst and Benedict performed, was given during the evening. Indeed, the visitors were rather embar-rassed with the richness of their entertainment, and some of the choicest concerted pieces were played in a surge-like noise of conversation. Such reunions-and we hear that King's will follow suit to University-cannot fail to be as useful in creating good-feeling and harmonious purpose as they are unquestionably pleasant in the play of conversation and the gathering of Art.

Mr. William Chambers writes on the subject of copyright in the colonies :-

"Edinburgh, March 7, 1855. "Since addressing you on the introduction of American reprints of British copyrights into the colonies, I have procured such further information on the subject as will set the matter at rest. By the Canadian Literary News Letter

for January, published at Montreal, it appears that the import of American reprints into the British possessions takes place in a perfectly legal manner; that is to say, under the sanction of the Act of the Imperial Legislature, 9 & 10 Vitc. cap. 93, pased on the 22nd of July, 1347. By this Act of Parliament it is provided, that the respective colonial legislatures may enact local laws to admit pirated reprints on making provision to secure the rights of British authors, and that having done so, the Queen by an order in Council, may thereupon suspend the operation of the ordinary existing copyright laws as far as regards the colonies. Having procured this Imperial Act, the Legislature of Canada and Nova Scotia duly compiled with its provisions, and the Queen gave her authority accordingly by intimation in the Gazette. Thus, the British North American possessions, as regards literature, are regularly handed over to the United States. In the matter of books supplied from New York, Canada is as much a part of the Union as the State of Oblo. And the same thing may be said for January, published at Montreal, it appears that the import of American reprints into the British possessions American possessions, as regards literature, are regularly handed over to the United States. In the matter of books supplied from New York, Canada is as much a part of the Union as the State of Oho. And the same thing may be said of all other British colonies, to which, soon, as a matter of course, the export of books from the United Kingdom must altogether cease, as no one paying heavy prices for copyrights in this country can compete with publishers who take the same copyrights for nothing. The question, however, remains—what measures have been adopted by Canada and Nova Scotia to 'secure the rights of British authors'? The answer is simple. In Canada, a custom-house duty of 13½ per cent. Is leviable on American reprints, for the benefit of the authors of the works so imported; and in Nova Scotia this duty is 20 per cent. In both cases, however, the levying of such duties is a 'sham.' In a letter I have just received from Halifax, Nova Scotia, it is stated that since 1847, not more than the sum of 104. has been so collected—that, in fact, the colonial Acts on this point are a dead letter. This confirms the information I received when in the colony. It seems odd that, among the publishers and literary men of Great Britain, there should have been such an utterignorance of the Act, 9 & 10 Vet. cap. 93, that they required to be informed of it through a colonial authority. The phenomenon is perhaps explained by the singular want of union among all persons connected with literature in this country. I formerly suggested a meeting of publishers to consider what steps should be adopted to protect their interests; but I now fear this would be of ittle use, as, by their carelessness, the publishers have delivered themselves up to the tender mercies of their more shrewd American brethren, and the passing of an International Copyright Act with the United States is rendered more remote than ever. Yours, &c., W. Chambers.
"March 12,—In the Canadian Nexs Letter just received, it is stated on authority from the Provincial Cus

lection of the duties on American reprints of British copy-right works. In short, practical difficulties render the law right works. In short, practical difficulties render the law valueless; its only apparent use being to legalize what was formerly a contraband trade. In such circumstances, American reprinters can searcely be blamed for exporting their wares to our colonies, for they may be said to do so on the presumption that they are benefiting British authors?

The Lords of the Committee of Privy Council charged with the general control of the British department of the Paris Exhibition have appointed Mr. Henry Cole sole Superintendent. Mr. Cole will, therefore, have the entire management of this section, -and with him all persons having interests at issue will enter into communication.

A Correspondent, who gives his name, forwards an extract, with a correction, from a MS. of Campbell's most famous song :-

"I have lately received, amongst a number of autographs, a manuscript of Campbell's naval ode, "Ye Mariners of England," in the autograph of the poet. The interest attaching to this manuscript is, that therein the poet makes an alteration, which, I believe, has not yet been noted in any edition of his works. There can be little doubt but that most of your readers would admit the correction, even without knowing in what forcible language the poet condemns the original. I annex the passage:

'The meteor flag of England

Shall yet terrific burn,
Till danger's troubled night depart
And the morn of peace return. †

* * *

Edinburgh, 1839. THOMAS CAMPBELL. 't Notice here, night and morn of peace. This is an important correction. The other was damnable indeed:—see . & B.'s edition. -You will perceive the correction is, 'morn' for star.-R. H. B."

-The word is usually printed "star;" and we are far from feeling certain that the alleged correction would improve either the music or the sense. Campbell, however, had a right to choose between

the two words. Sir Fortunatus Dwarris has in the press a selection of poems and metrical pieces, designed for the relief of a case of deep distress. "The widow of relief of a case of deep distress. "The widow of a former colleague of mine," says Sir Fortunatus, "employed for many rooms." "employed, for many years, upon a legal Com-mission, involving, as I have sufficient reason to know, the most laborious service and multifarious inquiry,—a barrister of the Middle Temple,—retired Chief Justice, author of a translation of Vanden Linden,' and several treatises on 'Colo-

nial and Civil Law,' has just made to me a most heart-rending disclosure of her present reduced and destitute condition. It might be some consolation to her, but it would little avail for her support, to be told, that-

I gave to misery (all I had) a tear;

so I have determined not to mock her in that fashion, but to devote whatever of time I could spare from official duties,-what of energy I have -what of zeal and devotion the occasion demands and inspires,—to make an intellectual effort to assist her." We observe that many of the chief persons at the bar and on the bench have lent their names to 'The Widow's Rescue.'

In reference to Mr. Skene's assertion that Sir Walter Scott "never" signed with his initials only, several Correspondents have addressed us; and from the evidence now under our eyes it is impossible to doubt that the great Romancer did sometimes-in his very brief and familiar notes-We state this fact at present, in order that these original autographs may not hereafter come in question through the evidence of so competent an authority as Mr. Skene. But we will add, that the admission does not improve the claims of 'Moredun.' If M. Cabany have no stronger evidence than that already adduced by him, he will gain no converts to his theory, from the external evidence, among persons able to judge and free from bias.

We have received the following from Mr. Nichols.

"In the Historical Introduction which I have prefixed to 'The Grants, &c. of King Edward the Fifth,' reviewed in the last Athenœum, I have admitted how scanty was the gleaning of facts really important to the national historian, gleaning of facts really important to the national historian, that I was able to pick up after the long-protracted inquiries of Sharon Turner and others, my predecessors in the same field. There was one point, however, which I deemed of somewhat greater importance than others, and that was this: Mr. Sharon Turner has argued that the Duke of Gloucester must have assumed the protectorate on the 19th of May. I have now discovered, from the Pateint Roll, that he had certainly done so as early as the 14th of that month. This date, in the last number of the Athencamp. 289, is unfortunately misprinted 'the 4th.' May I be further allowed to remark, in reference to the observation that the unfortunately misprinted 'the 4th.' May I be further allowed to remark, in reference to the observation that the book would have been improved by the documents being arranged chronologically, that I made the attempt to effect such arrangement, as I have intimated in my Paper, but that my efforts were foiled by the circumstance that the greater part of the documents in the original manuscript was deficient of their dates. On this account I conformed more than I should otherwise have done to the order of the manuscript. The reviewer remarks that the documents do not seem to continue after the 8th of June. One will be found dated the 11th, at p. 76. The letters patent appointing Humphrey Starky to be Chief Baron of the Exchequer and John Vavasour to be a king's serjeant passed King Edward's great seal on the 15th of June (p. xxxi). I may here correct an inadverence of mine in respect to the Edward's great seal on the 15th of June (p. xxxi). I may here correct an inadvertence of mine in respect to the Serjeants Trenaille, Vavasour and Townsende and the several Judges. The former were all made king's serjeants, as the ordinary serjeant-at-law was not made by patent. The Judges are misplaced, by an error I the more regret, having myself sometimes noticed it elsewhere. Those of 'the Bench' were of the Common Bench, i.e. the Court we now call the Common Pleas; those appointed to hear placifa coram nobis were the men appointed to the Court of King's Bench. I am, &c. John Gough Nichols." ench. I am, &c.

-We are obliged to Mr. Nichols for correcting our misprint of "4th" for 14th. The reason he assigns for not having arranged the documents chronologically is not satisfactory. Those which are dated might have been arranged in dates. As it is, the book is a mere "muddle" of documents, some dated and others undated. We wrote, as may be seen, in some doubt as to the date of the latest document, and it seems-such is the confusionthat we overlooked one document dated subsequently to the 8th of June. The one which Mr. Nichols notices, dated the 15th of June, occurs in another manuscript.

A further portion of the collection of the late Mr. Wilks is announced for sale next week. It contains, among other interesting lots-Burke's assignment to Dodsley, for the sum of fifty guineas, of his 'History of the European Settlements in America,' January 5, 1757. "This document," says a former possessor, "which is entirely autograph, is very curious and interesting, as it decides the point frequently controverted, whether Burke was the author of the work. Burke himself has omitted it in the collection of his works."—The original manuscript of the 'Life of Hayley,'—'Le Second Manuscrit venu de Sto.-Hélène,' with numerous Manuscrit venu de Ste.-Hélène,

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Corrections in the autograph of the Emperor Napoleon,—original manuscript, by R. Southey,—collections relating to Queen Caroline,—Fortyseven original and unpublished letters of Mrs. Montagu, are among the more interesting lots.

Dr. George Wilson, of Edinburgh, has been appointed, by the Board of Trade, Director of the Industrial Museum of Scotland, the active organization of which has now commenced. Ground

ganization of which has now commenced. Ground has been purchased by Government, in the immediate neighbourhood of the University, Edinburgh, for the erection of the Museum; and specimens, illustrating the application of Science to the Arts, are in process of collection, from various quarters. These specimens will be deposited in temporary buildings till the Museum is ready for their reception.

We see it stated that one of the last acts of the Emperor Nicholas was to present a diamond ring to a writer named Rotchoff. It is perhaps a unique instance of any demonstration of a regard for the friendship of literature during the late reign. Of course, the writing was political. Under the title of 'The Truth about England,' M. Rotchoff, we understand, has produced a romance as curious of its kind as M. Ledru-Rollin's 'Decline of Eng-

land.'

The naturalist, Ch. de Meyer, known to the scientific world by his travels among the Altai Mountains, and in the region of the Caucasus, died on the 28th ult.

The "wonted fires" are not all dead in the colleges across the Channel, as a students' demonstration, worthy of the Bourbon days, has now testified. M. Sainte-Beuve, an old writer in the National, and one of those moderate men of the Republican parky who exthered round General Republican party who gathered round General Republican party who gathered round General Cavaignac, some time ago ceased to have the courage of his opinions, as our neighbours phrase it, and embraced the Imperial eagles. As reward, he at once became chief literary light to the readers of the Moniteur. From this post he has now been raised to the chair of Poetry and Belles Lettres in the University; very much to the disgust of the students, whose generous instincts keep no terms with literary complaisance. At his first lecture in the College of France, he was met with a storm of hisses, such as rarely greets an expounder of the hisses, such as rarely greets an expounder of the Muses; and a stentorian voice exclaimed: "We are of your opinion when you wrote in the National." M. Ste. Beuve got angry, and instead of appealing to Apollo and the Nine, threatened to call the police, and at length did so. Seryents de rille closed the hall, and thus the Professor and his pupils parted.

his pupils parted.

In a course of lectures recently delivered by Prof. St.-Hilaire, at Paris, on animals useful to man, the Professor strongly urged the introduction of horseflesh as an aliment. After an elaborate disquisition on the equine physiology, it was stated that the ancient Germans were in the habit of eating horseflesh, and that to this day shops for the sale of this meat, under the superintendence of the sale of this meat, under the superintendence of the sale of this meat, under the superintendence of a Veterinary College, exist by royal authority in Copenhagen. The Professor added, that during the great French wars, the celebrated surgeon Larrey was accustomed to give horsefiesh to the wounded soldiers, and that he attributed their wounded soldiers, and that he attributed their cure in many instances to this nourishment. From these and many other facts, M. St.-Hilaire argues that the horse is intended not only to be useful to man as a beast of burden, but also to provide him with wholesome and nutritious food. We believe that Paris restaurants have long been in the habit of mixing horses less in their swayer resources which of mixing horseflesh in their savoury ragouts, which appear by another name in the carte. Supported by the scientific authority of M. St.-Hilaire, we sancy entremets-de-cheval may figure largely in Paris during the ensuing summer.

Signor Bezzi, who writes under date Turin, 6th of March, 1855, protests against some remarks of a former Correspondent,—and we give his protest as a homage to an honourable self-respect:—

"In the 1436th number of your excellent paper (Feb. 24th), which falls this moment under my eyes, I find an interesting communication from one of your Correspondents, who states that the best sculptors of Tuscan, have been at work on statues of Dante, Petrarch, Macchiavelli, and other poets, statesmen and philosophiers, and that the statues are to be placed in the Palazzo degli Ufizzi at Flo-

rence; but he calls the great men who are to receive this national apotheosis 'a part of that intellectual crop which seems to have entailed barrenness upon the soil of italy for all future generations.' Surely his terrible vaticination of the eternal barrenness of a country, which has had three prollife lives, and is showing symptoms of a fourth, is now, to say the least, in very questionable taste. Your Correspondent stigmatizes prospectively the intended collection of the sculptured images of our historical men in Florence by calling it 'a petrified gathering of incongruous poets, statesmen and philosophers.' Surely this sneer ought not to have proceeded from an Englishman; for England is not happy in the distribution of bronze and marble honours, whether we consider this distribution ethically, or even practically. The expression 'petrified gathering of poets, statesmen and philosophers,'—made, indeed, incongruous by the absence of monumental statues that England ought to have raised to her great men, and the presence of many awarded to her very smallest,—this expression irresistibly carries my mind to Westminster Abbey. If in linitake not, the Atheneum has inveighed more than once against the peculiarly English incongruity or unwillingness to transmit to posterity the lessons of the past through the medium of monumental sculpture. If you will admit in one of your earliest publications this kind of individual protest against your Correspondent's eternal condemnation of my country, you will oblige one of your oldest and most admiring Italian subscribers,

Mr. Fielde, a Correspondent who has more than once addressed our readers on the subject of Free Libraries,—a cause in which he has been active and serviceable, -writes to complain that the Crystal Palace Directors have done him, we will assume ratace Directors have done him, we will assume unwittingly, an injustice in suppressing the fact, that the Crystal Palace Free Library is his idea. "At the request of the late literary Director," says Mr. Fielde, "I prepared at considerable expense and trouble an elaborate and detailed plan pense and troute an encorate and detailed plan of a 'Reading and News Room' in connexion with a library for the use of the Crystal Palace visitors and workmen, and Mr. Phillips on reading it told me 'it was just what he wanted.' I have only to add, that I have corresponded with Sir Joseph Paxton and Mr. Grove, who have both expressed themselves favourable to my project. Under these circumstances, it seems almost incredible that they would sanction such unfair treatment towards one who has so industriously endeavoured to 'advance their purposes,' by promoting additional 'attrac-tions' to the Crystal Palace."

BRITISH INSTITUTION, Pail Mail.—The GALLERY for the EXHIBITION and SALE of the WORKS of BRITISH ARTISTS, is OPEN DAILY, from Ten till Five. Admission 1s; Catalogue 6d. GEORGE NICOL, Secretary.

The PORTLAND GALLERY, 316, Regent Street (opposite the Royal Polytechnic Institution). The EIGHTH ANNUAL EX-HIBITION of the NATIONAL INSTITUTION OF PINE ARTS is NOW OPEN from Mine till dusk. Admission One Shilling, Catalogue Sixpence.

Admission Free.—NOW OPEN, at the GALLERY OF ART, 131, Pall Mall (opposite Her Majesty's Thestre), the EXHIBITION of PRIZE PAINTINGS to be distributed amongst the present Year's Members of the GLASGOW ART-UNION.—Hours, from 10 to 5; and in the Evening, from 7 to 9.

The Exhibition will close on the 24th of March, PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY.—The SECOND ANNUAL EXHIBITION of this SOCIETY is NOW OPEN at the Rooms of the Society of Water-Colour Painters, Pail Mail East, in the Morning from 10 to 5; in the Evening from 7 to 10.—Admission, Merning, Lz, Evening, 6d. Catalogues, 6d.

ROYAL GALLERY OF ILLUSTRATION, 14, Regent Street.

—Additional Pictures. The Battle of Inkermann, and Great
Storm in the Black Standard, Standard,

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LOVE'S LENTEN ENTERTAINMENTS.—VENTRILOQUISM EXTRAORDINARY.—Fifteenth Season in London.—
DPPER HALL, 09. REGERT QUADRART, Regent Streete
Stage, New Closk-rooms, &c. Every Evening at 8. except Saturday; Saturday, at 3.—On Monday and Tuesday, THE NEW
ENTERTAINMENT, called THE LONDON SEASON, and
other entertainments. On Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday,
Mr. LOVE will give a LEOTURE on the OCCULT POWERS
IN ALL SHAPES; with LOVE'S LABOUR'S LOST.—On
Sakurday at 3. Love in all Shapes, with other entertainments—
Pismoforte, Miss Julis Warman.—Stalls, 3s.; Area, 3s.; Gallery,
1s.—Tickets at Mitchelly Royal Library, 35, Old Bond Street;
Terner's Music Depôt, 19, Poultry; and at the Rooms, between 19
and 3.

PATRON: H.R.H. PRINCE ALBERT.

ROYAI. POLYPECHNIC INSTITUTION.— MONDAY
EVENING the 19th inst. LECTURE by Dr. LANKSFER, R.R.S.
6a.: On the RESEMBLANCES OF PLANTS and ANIMALS.—
Tuesday Evening, TELEPHONIC CONCERT by INVISIBLE
PERFORMERS, by J. H. PEPPER, Esq.—Thursday, DRA MATIO
READING, by Mr. HUGH LERIE, MCDETH.—Friday, ASTYROLESE MINSTRELS, Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and
sturday Evenings.—Friday Evening, Mrs. Furlone, on ORAL
INSTRUCTION.—The STEAM GUN, DISSOLVING VIEWS
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LEICESTER SQUAKE.—The AZTECS and the EARTHMEN.
The first of either race ever seen in Europe. Exhibited daily from
3 to 5, and 7 to half-past 9. Lectures at 4 and 5. Vocal and
Instrumental Concerts every Exhibition.—Admission, Stalls, 2s.;
Reserved Scata, 1s.; Gallery, 6d.

BOYAL PANOPTICON OF SCIENCE AND ART. Leicester Square.—A Grand Performance of Sacred Music on the Organ, by History by the Optical Diorama, daily at 415, and 820.—Dioramic Views of the War in the Crimea, at 520 and 520. Comorama of St. Petersburgh and Moscow, with Portrait of the late Caar, Heinke's Diving Apparatus, at 8 and 7.—Luminous Fountain, 450, and 953.

Lectures and Demonstrations during the week.—Electricity, by days, 343, and 9.—Chemistry, by Mr. G. F. Ansell, Monday and Thursday, at 2.—The Moon, by Mr. W. R. Birt, Monday, 720. Saturday, 2.—Pneumaties, by Mr. Partington, Tuesday and Friday, 2.—The English in the Middle Ages, by Mr. Leicester on Scientific Apparatus, Hanufactures, and Machinery at intervals.—Doors open in the Morning, from 12 to 5: Evening (Saturdays excepted) 7 to 10. Admission, 1s.; Schools and Children half-price.—On Wednesday this Institution will be closed.

SCIENTIFIC

SOCIETIES.

ROYAL.—March I.—C. Wheatstone, Esq., V.P., in the chair.—The Earl of Ducie was admitted into the Society.—A paper was read 'On the Structure of the Manducatory Organs in the Class Rotifera,' by P. H. Gosse, Esq.

GEOGRAPHICAL.—March 12.—Sir R. I. Murchison, V.P., in the chair.—Sir J. Login, J. J. Galloway, A. Maclure, and J. Pilkington, M.P., Esqs., were elected Fellows.—'Late Journey from El-Medina to Mecca, down the "Darbel-Sharki," on the Eastern Road (hitherto unvisited by Europeans),' by Lieut. R. Burton.—'Memoranda on Abyssinia.'—'Account of a Tour up the Gambia to Salum,' by Mr. J. Smyth O'Connor, Governor.

Geological.—Feb. 16.—Annual General Meeting.—W. J. Hamilton, Esq., President, in the chair.—The Secretary read the Reports of the Council, of the Museum and Library Committee, and of the Auditors,—which were adopted and ordered to be printed.—The President announced the award of the Wollaston Palladium Medal to Sir H. T. De la Beche,—of the balance of the proceeds of the Wollaston Donation Fund to MM. G. and F. Sandberger, of Wiesbaden, geologists and paleontologists.—The President proceeded to read his Anniversary Address, and commenced with biographical notices of some of the lately deceased Fellows of the Society,—particularly Prof. E. Forbes, late President of the Society, Prof. Jameson, and Sir J. Franklin.—The ballot for the Council and Officers was taken, and the following were duly elected for the ensuing year:—President. Council, of the Museum and Library Committee, son, and Sir J. Franklin.—The ballot for the Council and Officers was taken, and the following were duly elected for the ensuing year:—President, W. J. Hamilton, Esq.; Vice-Presidents, Sir P. Egerton, Bart., Sir C. Lyell, Sir R. I. Murchison, and Prof. J. Phillips; Secretaries, J. C. Moore and J. Prestwich, jun., Esqs.; Foreign Secretary, S. P. Pratt, Esq.; Treasurer, D. Sharpe, Esq.; Council, J. J. Bigsby, M.D., Lieut.-Col. P. T. Cautley, Sir P. G. Egerton, Bart., Earl of Enniskillen, T. F. Gibson, R. A. Godwin Austen, W. J. Hamilton, J. D. Hooker, M.D., Leonard Horner, Sir C. Lyell, J. C. Moore, J. Morris, Sir R. I. Murchison, R. W. Mylne, S. R. Pattison, J. Percy, M.D., Prof. J. Phillips, Lieut.-Col. Portlock, J. Prestwich, jun., S. P. Pratt, Prof. A. C. Ramsay, J. W. Salter, and D. Sharpe.

Feb. 21.—W. J. Hamilton, Esq., President, in the chair.—E. Hull, Esq. was elected a Fellow.—'On the Occurrence of Glaciers and Icebergs during the Permian Epoch,' by Prof. Ramsay.

March 7.—W. J. Hamilton, Esq., President, in the chair.—'On the Geology of the Goldfields of Ballarat, Eureka Creek, and Creswick Creek, Victoria,' by Mr. H. Rosales.—'On the Geology of Part of the Peel River District, Australia,' by M. F. Odernheimer.—'On the Occurrence of Obsidian Bombs in the Auriferous Alluvium of Australia,' by the Rev. W. B. Clarke.—'On the Occurrence of Fossil Bones in the Auriferous Alluvium of Australia,' by the Rev. W. B. Clarke.—'On the Geology of New South Wales, by the Rev. W. B. Clarke, in a letter to Sir R. I. Murchison.

Society of Antiquaries.—March 1.—J. P. Collier, Esq., V.P., in the chair.—Mr. J. H. Tonna was elected a Fellow.—The Rev. Thomas Hugo

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exhibited a small bronze Celt of unusual form exhibited a small bronze Celt of unusual form found in Ireland.—Mr. Octavius Morgan exhibited a drum-shaped early clock made at Nuremberg: also, a German MS. with some very curious drawings of costumes.—The reading of Mr. Wylie's account of 'The Graves of the Alemanni at Oberflacht, near Stuttgart,' was concluded.

March 8 .- Admiral Smith, V.P., in the chair. -Mr. Pycroft presented a painting of St. Martin on canvas.-Mr. Waterton exhibited several mediaval rings from his collection .- Mr. J. B. Yates communicated a transcript of a proposal submitted to Cromwell for insuring shipping and imports and exports.—A memoir was read 'On the Field of the Battle of Tewkesbury,' by Mr. Brooke.

ROYAL SOCIETY OF LITERATURE.—Feb. 28.—Sir John Doratt, V.P., in the chair.—Mr. Birch read a paper in French by M. François Lenormant, the son of the Keeper of the Antiquities in the Bibliothèque Nationale at Paris, 'On a Monument of the Conquests of Ptolemy Evergetes I.' The object of M. Lenormant's paper was to show the remarkable coincidence between the celebrated Greek inscription found at Adulis, and preserved by Cosmas Indicopleustes, and the Egyptian in-scription discovered by M. Champollion at Esneh in Egypt. It was illustrated by a careful philological examination of the names of persons and places occurring in it.

ARCHÆOLOGICAL INSTITUTE.-Feb. 3.-W. H. Blauw, Esq., in the chair.—The theory of the supposed ancient currency of Ireland, in the form of rings of various sizes, was brought under consideration .- Dr. Bell gave a notice of the establishment of a collection of Roman and German antiquities at Mayence, and of another, comprising mediæval objects, at Nuremberg, according to the plan originated at the Congress of Archeological and Historical Societies at Mayence, in 1852.— Mr. Ashurst Majendie described some memorials of the ancient family of De Vere, and produced an elaborate drawing of the monument of John, fifteenth Earl of Oxford, and his countess, -a fine work of sculpture of the Renaissance style, no mixture of Gothic ornament being discernible .-The Dean of Carlisle communicated the recent discovery of a stone cross, built into the wall, at Carlisle Cathedral, in a part of that structure built about the year 1300.—The Rev. H. Scarth sent fac-similes, taken by means of moistened paper, from the Roman tablet lately found at Bath; and Mr. Franks stated the grounds of his belief that the inscription must be assigned to the time of

BRITISH ARCHÆOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION .- Feb. 28.—S. R. Solly, V.P., in the chair.—The Chairman announced that the Earl of Perth and Melfort had been elected President of the Association, and that the Congress for the autumn of 1855 would be held at the Isle of Wight, and several of the tumuli there, by the consent of the proprietors, examined.—Mr. Pettigrew submitted a collection of Roman, Saxon, and Mediæval rings belonging to Mr. Warren, of Ixworth, and collected by him, being found in Norfolk, Suffolk, and Essex.—Mr. Davis, V.P., exhibited a clothes-brush of the time of Charles the Second, which had been handed down along with other heir-looms in his family; and Mr. H. Syer Cuming, the Hon. Sec., made some observations upon its construction and on the antiquity of clothes-brushes. The precise period at which they were first employed in England is unknown. Shakspeare, however, makes allusions to them in his 'Much Ado about Nothing' and the 'Taming of the Shrew.'—Mr. Gunston exhibited eleven ancient iron keys, five of which were piped or tubular, the rest spiked. In three the bows were curiously decorated.—A paper 'On the Remains of Beaulieu Abbey, and on the Priory of St. Dionysius, both in Hampshire,' by Mr. W. D. Bennett, was read, and gave rise to some discussion. Mr. Le Keux referred the Association to some details belonging to Beaulieu given by Mr. Weale in his quarterly architectural publications.—Mr. Planché read a architectural publications.—Mr. Planche read a paper, entitled 'Gatherings for a Glossary,' being

-Mr. C. C. Nelson, Hon. Sec., read the substance of a work recently published by the Prussian Government, entitled 'Early Christian Monuments of Constantinople, from the Fifth to the Twelfth Century,' by W. Salzenberg. This folio work comprises numerous engravings, in line as well as in chromo-lithography, illustrative of the ancient edifices of Constantinople, and especially of the Church of Sta. Sophia; and as the author enjoyed unprecedented opportunities of examining building, his account and illustrations of it possessed great interest. That the illustrations were exceedingly elaborate and minute may be inferred from the fact that twenty-two plates were devoted to the Church of Sta. Sophia alone. M. Salzenberg's letter-press gives an elaborate history of Byzantine Art as exemplified in Constantinople; it describes the foundation and successive alterations of the Great Mosque, -and gives, for the first time with precise accuracy, the measurement of its celebrated cupola. The dimensions of this famous dome are as follows :- diameter immediately over the pendentive arches, 100 Prussian feet (103 English),—diameter higher up between the ribs forming the inner surface, 104 Prussian feet,—height from the pavement to the underside at the apex, 179 Prussian feet,—thickness over the windows, of which there are forty at the basis of the cupola, 29 inches-at the crown, 24 inches.

Feb. 19.—Mr. M. Digby Wyatt continued the subject of the last Meeting by some remarks on the mosaic and other internal coloured decorations of Sta. Sophia. He observed that one class of Byzandecorations, as displayed in this church, involved some structural points,-the chief of these being the perforated stone windowsround the dome, which there was every reason to believe were filled originally with stained glass.—

The windows are formed of a series of slabs of marble, pierced in apertures of about 8 inches by 10. In these sash-bars, as I may call them, there is a rebate left on the outside in all cases, and it appears to me most probable that these apertures were filled in with coloured glass. The reason I have for thinking so is, that we know that the Byzantines were perfectly well acquainted with all the processes of glass-making. Their enamels were proverbially beautiful, and Buonarotti has given us many interesting details concerning their glass vessels, which they painted with fluxes, and decorated by other processes, at a very early period. Of many varieties of such vessels there are specimens existing in the Museum Christianum of the Vatican at Rome. These actual remains prove to us that they were masters of the technicalities of glass-work. Paulus Silentiarius alludes to the beautiful effect of light and colour in this building of Sta. Sophia, when seen in the early morning; and Paul the Hermit, and Fortunatus of Poictiers, in his 'Carmina,' also describe this effect. philus, who was a writer on the technical arts a little before our Conquest, has a whole treatise upon the subject of stained glass, which he prefaces by stating that he had taken the pains to go to Sta. Sophia, to examine the effect of the light, coloured by transmission, in order to qualify himself for writing this section of his book. When it is remembered that Sta. Sophia was commenced in the year 532, and completed about 540, it is interesting to have grounds for the belief that stained glass was extensively used at such an early period. Until recently the assertion of the Benedictines, that coloured glass was not know previously to the time of Charlemagne, has been generally regarded as correct. French and English antiquaries have, however, found allusions to its existence at a much earlier period,—as early, indeed, as the year 600; and the details now given to the world concerning Sta. Sophia, afford a strong corroboration of their

The mosaic decorations included the pavement, consisting of large marble slabs, the wall pannels, of inlaid marble (being the origin of Florentine mosaic), and the glass mosaic, of the more elaborate and pictorial designs, in the dome and other

the first of a series to be published in the Journal of the Association.

levated portions of the building. These pictorial mosaics were chiefly upon a gold ground; and it appeared, by M. Salzenberg's illustrations, that there were also some upon a silver ground. The mode of executing the latter had been described in ancient manuscripts; but the existence of any actual specimens was not previously known. Mr. Wyatt dwelt upon the skill with which the architectural lines of the building were enforced by the decoration,—upon the extreme beauty of the pat-terns and the excellence of their execution,—and, particularly, upon a peculiar Oriental character displayed in some of them, and which he supposed to have been derived from Persia in the time of Justinian. He described the principal composi-tions in mosaic, including figures of the Greek Saints, the Greater and Lesser Prophets, the Evangelists and Cherubim, ascending, by gradual Evangeness and Cherunim, ascending, by gradual steps, to the cupola, within which was originally a mosaic painting of the Deity. Mr. Wyatt then adverted to the history of the art, showing that the glass mosaics on a gold ground were common both in Rome and at Pompeii; and, finally, described the various technical processes by which these works were executed. He alluded to the wide diffusion of Byzantine art, and referred to a painting in the Cathedral of Kazan, one of the oldest cities in Russia, to show the identity of

style with that of Constantinople.

**Reb. 26.—At a special meeting of the Members, it was resolved, that the Royal Gold Medal of the Royal Institute of British Architects for 1854 should be awarded to M. Hittorff, architect, Member of the Institute, Paris; the Silver Medal of the Institute to Mr. W. P. Griffith, architect, of St. John's Square, for an Essay on 'Mediæval Decorations and Ornaments', with two premiums to Mr. C. M. Beazley and one to Mr. Willey, students, for drawings. The Soane Medallion was not awarded, only one set of designs (for a metropolitan hotel) having been sent in, and those not being sufficiently meritorious to justify the

award of the Medal.

Feb. 28.—At an adjourned special meeting, the Health of Towns Bill, now before Parliament, was considered, and a Committee was appointed to draw up a petition against its passing in its pre-

HORTICULTURAL. - March 6. - Mr. Strachan, V.P., in the chair.—Lord Murray, J. Boord, Esq., and Mr. Videon were elected Fellows.—The centre table was loaded with some noble orchids; in front of these were some specimens of pines and early grapes; the other available space was occupied with beautifully grown azaleas, Chinese primroses, hya-cinths, cyclamens, and a variety of other forced flowers. Pears unrivalled for their beauty, apples worthy of November, salads and forced vegetables, both of home and foreign growth, attracted the attention of those who are lovers of the products of the fruit and kitchen garden. In another place we observed a most extensive and valuable assortment of fibrous materials, and cordage and paper prepared from them, furnished by Dr. Royle, exhibited by the East India Company. Among them were plantain fibre and tow, plain and dyed, showing that it takes colour well; also fibre from yuccas, pitu or agave (Madras), sanseviera or moorva, moonja (Saccharum Munja), a kind of sugar-cane, pine-apple, and jute (Corchorus oli-torius). There were likewise leaves of bhabhur (Eriophorum cannabinium), and Cyperus (C. teg-tum), together with examples of a kind of bark-cloth from the paper mulberry and flam tree of Borneo. These natural cloths and fibres, together with the papers made from lace-bark, plantain, &c., excited, as might be expected, interest, showing, as they did, the richness of our Indian Empire in textile materials, which are at present so se with us. Samples of paper prepared from Holous saccharatus were also exhibited from Mr. Henderson. They were strong, and of tolerably good colour. It was mentioned, that fibre of this plant was some time ago submitted to the Treasury for the purpose of instituting experiments with it, in order to ascertain its value, and that the result of the Government investigations was, that it was

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inferior in strength to hemp, but nearly as strong

INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS.—March 6 and 13.—James Simpson, Esq., President, in the chair.—The discussion was renewed on Mr. Allen's paper 'On Steam and Sailing Colliers,' and was continued throughout both evenings.—At the monthly ballot, the following candidates were elected:—Messrs. C. Rammell and F. C. Stileman, as Members; O. Cookayne, E. Loysel, R. F. Reed, B. P. Stockman, T. M. Vigors, and H. Wrigg, as Associates.

ROYAL INSTITUTION.—General Monthly Meeting.—March 5.—F. Pollook, Esq., in the chair.—J. R. Andrews, J. Baily, C. Beevor, H. Bradbury, H. N. Davis, J. Dickinson, J. V. Gooch, Rev. G. Dalgarno Hill, E. James, Dr. Lee, W. M'Grigor, and Leopold Redpath were duly elected Members; and G. J. Redpath were duly elected Members; and G. J. Lyons, E. Macrony, and J. W. Wrey were admitted Members.—The Secretary reported, that the following arrangements had been made for the lectures after Easter:—Eight lectures 'On Voltaic Electricity,' by Prof. Tyndall,—eight lectures 'On Christian Art,' by G. Scharf, Esq., jun,—and eight lectures 'On Electro-Physiology,' by Dr. Du Bois Reymond.

SOCIETY OF ARTS.—March 7.—Col. Challoner in the chair.—'On the Sewage of London,' by Mr. J. B. Lawes.

MERTINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

Royal Academy, 8.—'On Sculpture,' by Sir R. Westmacott.

Statistical, 8.—Discussion 'On the Loans raised by Mr. Pitteduring the first French War, 1793—1801, with some Statements in Defence of the Methods of Funding employed.'

Society of Arta, 8.—Special. Adjourned discussion 'On the Society of London.

On the State Propeller to the larger class of Salling Yessels,' by Mr. Robinson.

Royal Institution, 2.—'On Electricity,' by Prof. Tyndall.

Society of Antiquaries, 8.

Royal 1 Institution, 2.—'On English Literature,' by Mr. Numiscantio. 7.

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The Principles of Colouring and Painting. By Charles Martel. Winsor & Newton.

This is another of that excellent series of practical handbooks issued by the above firm : - it may be considered as a companion treatise to former volumes, and necessary for the student of any branch of Art, being founded on primary and ab-

stract, and not on individual principles.

The writer, availing himself of Chevreul's newest discoveries, has abridged the science of Colour into a portable and understandable shape. He shows very forcibly that, "to imitate the model faithvery corolly that, "to imitate the model raithfully, we must copy it differently from what we see it." It is not enough that the poor uneducated eye sees a colour: it must be sure that such a colour is in the object, and must understand why it is there, and what produces it. In viewing every coloured object, he shows that the eye, constructed to see white light, passes through certain successive stages which cause the colours looked at to appear changed. The law of simultaneous contrast is now for the first time brought before the poorer student.

The Theory and Practice of Landscape Painting in Water-Colours. Illustrated by a Series of Twenty-four Designs, Coloured Diagrams, and numerous Woodcuts; with Extra Plates on Simultaneous Contrasts (Leighton Brothers Chromatic Process). By George Barnard. Orr & Co. This work we have already reviewed as it appeared in numbers. The examples given are coloured by machinery, and are meant as guides to a hand

NATIONAL INSTITUTION OF FINE ARTS.

THE Annual Exhibition of the National Institution of Fine Arts is now open. On the whole, the paintings are of an inferior order to those of last year. Among the five hundred and odd of last year. Among the five hundred and odd specimens, there is not one attempt at anything specimens, there is not one attempt at anything beyond smooth, decorative, drawing -room art;—there is scarcely one good portrait:—the land-scapes are of an average and monotonous excellence, and the works of pure imagination are limited to some half dozen. The rest are mere beginnings,—experiments in pigment:—widows of Alma, weeping as if they had lost four thousand men rather than one,—fish like flesh, and flesh like fish. Considering that this Gallery is one to which admission is procured by purchase, and not like fish. Considering that this Gallery is one to which admission is procured by purchase, and not by merit or favour, we might, we think, reasonably expect to find annually on these walls the works of many impeded, ill-used and neglected geniuses; instead of which, we find no indication of either aspiration or ambition. The same men work on with the same ideas:—this artist has his sabotted peasant, and that his prismatic walls. The same red cows come down, from the same propular mountains with a unity of purpose known.

The same red cows come down, from the same opaque mountains, with a unity of purpose known only in the annals of willow-pattern Art.

Miss Howitt, whose 'Gretchen,' with its simple, quaint pathos and tender poetry, we had last year to praise, is not equal to herself this year. The Lady (No. 257) is a mere phantasy, unreal without being poetical, unusual without being suggestive. It has little in common with that Spirit of the Flowers, whom Shelley, in his 'Sensitive Plant,' describes as tending the magic garden. We see only a shepherdess walking, and a woman lying dead. Miss Howitt's technical faults are conspicuous in this work. The drawing is weak and hesitating; the faces seem moon-lit and unpleasantly transparent, and her delicacy of observation has grown almost morbid. The borders of flowers want boldness and relief; and, although a little too much like a valentine in an album, are little too much like a valentine in an album, are little too much like a valentine in an album, are carefully and truthfully painted, and with much finish and taste. The picture, as a mere poetical sketch, might have pleased; but, as a completed work, it is a feeble interpretation of the ethereal poem—and is, therefore, not worthy of Miss Howitt's genius. We should imagine the picture a commission, and that the artist has been working

Equally slight, and more brown and unpleasing in colour, are Mr. W. B. Scott's two pictures, which still interest from their real poetry, their Pre-Raphaelite feeling, rather than style, and the Pre-Raphaelite feeling, rather than style, and the originality of their subjects (vague as they are). The best of the two is Albert Dürer in Nuremberg (263). The artist, not very like his portrait, is looking down from the wooden gallery of his house upon the broad market-place leading to the Schloss and Thiergartner gates. He is watching, with keen, perceptive meditation, a knightly procession, while the swallows are flashing past him to and fro, for their nests are built in the roof of the artist's house. Little as there is in this subject there is a minute poetry of oh. in the roof of the artists nouse. Little as there is in this subject, there is a minute poetry of observation, that leads us to dwell with pleasure on the old, cracked frescoes of Adam and Eve, the red roofs, the tall steeples, and the jostling houses, with their full daylight effect. Unaffected simplicity is more attractive than affectation coupled to even a higher art. We regret that Albert to even a higher art. We regret that Albert Dürer's head should be so feebly painted, so lost in outline, and so foggy in colour. His other picture is A Country Market Town, Hexham, Northumberland (245). In this there is even less subject than in the preceding. An ugly young woman, brown as hardbake, is working at a window. Below lies the market release.

Nature shapes as well as colours objects. With this proviso, we can warmly recommend the book.

The maiden is ugly, the room dull and plain; and yet there is singular truth in the women below, washing at the spring; and the distance, although not apparently expressed by tenderness of tone, is

washing at the spring; and the distance, although not apparently expressed by tenderness of tone, is singularly deceptive.

The most ambitious picture in the Gallery as to size and subject is one by Mr. J. E. Lauder. It is a scene from that romance of 'Sir Tristram' which Mr. Arnold's poem has so beautifully recast:

—Sir Tristram teaching La Belle Isonde to play the Harp (875). Pleasing in composition and colour, the artist in this picture has committed the radical fault of making his heroine "flabby" and uninteresting. Such a subject as this admits of two treatments. It must be a picture of sentiment, and the painter will trace the dawning of a deep and fatal passion; or it must be a picture of costume and spectacle, and the artist will dazzle us with steel and gems and cloth of gold, and woven silks and feathers, while the horizon, blending with a sunset, would reflect the splendour of earth. Mr. Lauder has done neither of these things:—we have neither knightly pomp nor attempt at expression. The figures are rephearsing, the dresses are right, and the attitudes are set; but the play has not yet begun. The colour of the flesh is painfully livid and unhealthy, and we think that such a lady had better be studying Buchan's 'Domestic Medicine' than preludes and cadenzas. We must, however, admit that the details are painted in a masterly manner,—and the seene, apart from the drawbacks, is well given.

Mr. R. S. Lauder's Gow Chrom and Louise (45) is the well-known scene from 'The Fair Maid of

drawbacks, is well given.

Mr. R. S. Lauder's Gow Chrom and Louise (45) is the well-known scene from 'The Fair Maid of Perth' where the burly honest smith takes the poor glee maiden under his arm and loads himself with all her finery. This picture is pleasing in colour and characteristic in its background and details, but is spoilt by the crippled position in which the figures are placed in the artist's unsuccessful strengt to convex an invescing of rapid cessful attempt to convey an impression of rapid motion. The face of Louise is simply nothing, and the smith's not much. If there were as much thought as there is clever craftsmanship, this would thought as there is clever crattsmanship, this would be an excellent painting.—A more equal and sus-tained picture, though wanting finish and elabora-tion in these exacting days, is *Imagene* (300). When we say "Imagene" we mean a landscape with a figure. A more fitting spot could not have been chosen to illustrate the spirit of Shakspeare's scene; but the cave is damp and rheumatic, and suggests slimy toadstools and many efts. The tall, spiry trees growing up to the light, and the brawling stream, all conduce to the true effect. The colour

trees growing ap the stream all conduce to the true effect. The colour is pleasing and the touch vigorous.

One of the best pictures in the collection is Mr. M'Ian's Battle of Stone Ferry (77). With a little more power of conveying variety of expression, this excellent work would have taken a higher standing. Of no national interest, like West's 'Death of Wolfe,' it is equally, perhaps more, romantic in the interest of its situation. It represents a small detachment of Fraser's Highlanders, who during the American War defended themselves against two thousand armed insurgents. Only seven out of sixty men escaped to the main body,—the rest, including all the officers, falling like the long-haired Spartans at Thermopyle. To a Scotchman much bassism must be dear; and Mr. M'Ian has including all the officers, failing that all one-haired Spartans at Thermopyles. To a Scotchman such heroism must be dear; and Mr. M Ian has painted it as if he had just left the field. He has chosen the moment when a driving cloud of white smoke indicates the arrival of the reinforcement, whom the grim, unmoved piper, built up with slain, greets with "Hech, but ye've been long o' comin." The few survivors stand on a red, o' comin." The few survivors stand on a red, writhing heap of wounded and of dead, their faces still towards the foe,—staunch and at bay, but hedged in with pikes and scythes. In the rear, Indians, ghastly with the war-paint, are stealing round them; a chief, crowned with a crimson creet, drawing an arrow to the head. The white powdered wigs of the slain, stiff and courtly, machiners. The examples given are coloured by machinery, and are meant as guides to a hand at a window. Below lies the market-place, guided not by springs and pulleys, but by a mind. Excellent as hints, they would be most dangerous to the pupil if alavishly copied, being very coarse, one eyeing the brown lady with curious additional gloom to the seene. The composition rague, and uncertain, the outline especially being quite lost,—while severity or exactness of form is one of the chief requisites in the modern landow. Below lies the market-place, while powdered wigs of the slain, stiff and courtly, and the powder wigs of the slain, stiff and courtly, contrast hideously with the unrestrained passion of the living. The sky, lurid and heavy, lends eye, and uncertain, the outline especially being quite lost,—while severity or exactness of form is one of the chief requisites in the modern landow. Below lies the market-place, while powdered wigs of the slain, stiff and courtly, contrast hideously with the unrestrained passion of the living. The sky, lurid and heavy, lends eye, and the other, somewhat bolder, pecking at a didtional gloom to the scene. The composition of the picture reflects credit on the artist. The dead lie naturally, and the drawing is throughout many the powdered wigs of the slain, stiff and courtly, and the powdered wigs of the slain, stiff and courtly, and the courtly, somewhat bolder, pecking at a crimson creek, drawing an arrow to the lead. The

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ism. We congratulate him on the skill with which he has treated the colour of the plaid, not breaking it into spots and patches, but maintaining its

breadth and unity.

Mr. Provis is admirable, as usual, in his Breton interiors, but has nothing better than ordinary. Mr. Pasmore contributes several of his rainbowed walls, exceedingly poetical, charming—and unnatural. Palace or hovel,—night or day,—sun or shade,—is all one to him. He looks through his prisms, and tints his thin clever sketches with subdued iris, and pleases himself and his spectators,—and is happy.

Mr. F. Wyburd shows an advance in the deli-

cate lady-like beauty of his Viola (89). such perception of grace, we lament that he does not show more enterprise, and throw his figures into scenes. Surely the object of Art is not to

throw off stereotypes.

Mr. Egley is clever in his Hamlet and Ophelia (97), but his taste is subject to aberrations. Why paint Hamlet with such preposterous yellow hair merely because Ophelia wears an amber-coloured gown? Why pinch up their features into such painful small contractions, which seem contracting as you look at them? The painting, technically,

is careful and good, but rather rigid.

A curious little picture, with much elaborate study in it, is William Tell's Child (468), by Mr. W. S. Burton. The tree trunk against which the child rests is a miracle of patience and skill. We rejoice the less, however, in the child's deliverance, because we see that water on the brain must ensue in a few months, its head already being as large as a bushel.

Mr. F. Underhill has never done anything better, rough as it is, than Charity (187). The woman at the church-door and the group entering are well contrasted. The children are painted with his usual sympathy for infancy.

The best portrait we see is A Russian Dealer the Gostvinordor (86), by Mr. W. C. Thomas. The face is strange, but perhaps true in colour, but the fur is a wonderful piece of imitation without microscopism.—Mr. Weekes has a singular power in pourtraying the shades of ugliness. His Christopher Sly is an educated Caliban. His William, in Fouchstone, Audrey, and William (514), is a bumpkin of the first water. His detail is very elaborate, but his painting is thin and timid.—Mr. Russel's Malvolio (480) is clever, but the head is too large for the figure, and there is almost too much of Mercutio's archness about the face of the steward, who was half a Puritan and wholly a busybody, vain, arrogant, prying, and insolent.—Mr. Rossiter's Pistol (499) is very bright in colour and nicely painted.— Mr. Marks's Vanitas Vanitatum (227) is scarcely an advance on his 'Cavalier' of last year. The picture is crowded with quaint fancy and thought. We scarcely see, however, what brings the emblems of life round his feet, unless he is a property-man or a bailiff, a toyman taking stock, or an antiquary planning a catalogue.

In no artist do we see more palpable improvement than in Mr. Duffield. His Citrons (125) presses very close on Mr. Lance's heels. They are bossy and rich in colour, clean and sharp in finish, and admirable both in composition and imitation.—Mr. Burcham's Fruit (177) is very deli-

cate and bright in colour.

The landscapes scarcely deserve much mention. Too many of them are the elever productions of the manufacturer, and are rather thrown off, like printing, than thought out touch by touch by the artist who gropes for wisdom and beauty, plenty of Highland and Welsh scenes, clever and impudent, thrown off with an easy, smooth talent that thinks it sees through and through nature, and sees no further than the peel of the rind. We are tired of seeing mountains hidden in square feet of semi-opaque fog, done by the yard, year after year, -- fire introduced as a bit of red, and cows to 'carry through colour." Such work should be left for machinery, and not be done by men with souls and bodies.—Mr. Wood's architecture is mellow in colour and well drawn as usual.—Messrs. Williams and Percy have some pleasing, fresh, manly scenes, neither very delicate nor very tender

jects equally worthy of his talent and his patriot- | in execution, and rather conventional in treatment. One of the best landscapes is Mr. Hulme's Walk by the Conway (315). The foliage is rather too feathery, but the touch of the artist light and pleasing. — Overschie, near Rotterdam (484), by Mr. T. S. Robins, though not presuming, is very warm and glowing in colour, and the orange roofs tell brilliantly against the blue sky.—There is some poetry in Mr. T. White's Haunted House (483), and he knows the value of obscurity, and throws a weird, blue light over his roofless grange. The whole looks like a dream, and would lose nothing by more boldness and distinctness.— Mr. Swarbreck's Roslyn Chapel (244) is careful, but is of a tiring, monotonous equality of execution that never seems to rise or full.—Of the younger artists, Mr. Lupton's Banks of the Mole (301) shows much vivacity and freshness.

> FINE-ART GOSSIP .- On Wednesday, at a General Meeting of the Royal Academy of Arts, Mr. E. M. Ward was elected a Royal Academician in

> the room of the late Mr. J. J. Chalons.
> We are sorry to see it stated in the Irish papers that the Government School of Art in Limerick will be closed at the end of this month, following the example of the schools in Cork and Belfast.

> The last descendant of Leonardo da Vinci, the famous Florentine painter, who expired in the arms of Francis the First, died a few days back in the neighbourhood of Roanne (Loire). He was a travelling glazier, says the Paris Correspondent of the Daily News, and died from the effects of a fall which he had had when repairing the roof of a

At the last meeting of the Oxford Architectural Society, Mr. Street made some interesting remarks on coloured sculpture, and exhibited some fragments of ancient alabaster, where gold had been used for the hair, the edges of draperies, and the lining of robes, giving great distinctness to the form at a distance. Another gentleman observed, that mediæval sculptors, so far from fearing to lose the sharp edge of the chiselled stone, frequently covered their figures with a paste before colouring.

Mr. R. Westmacott, jun., R.A., in a paper, originally read at a meeting of the Archeological Institute of Great Britain and Ireland, but recently published, appears to agree entirely with our strong and repeated objections to the colouring of statues. He treats the taste, justly, as occa sioned by a morbid demand for novelty, that would degrade sculpture to the level of wax-work, and debase and sensualize one of the purest and most spiritual forms that Art can assume. It is, in fact, another manifestation of the demand for Dutch imitation, so prevalent at the present day; -another proof of our growing materialism and restless desire for change, even for the worse. Mr. Westmacott at once admits the proof that the Greeks sometimes coloured their statues, but does not allow that such a precedent must be followed It still remains to be proved that Phidias coloured his statues,-that such a practice was prevalent in the best age of sculpture,—and that it was an ordinary, and not an exceptional, practice. Suppose the Greeks did smear some statues, as one would a door, with a uniform and ungraduated tint, put in jewel eyes, or inlaid bronze lips with silver, -there is still no reason that because we try to follow their good taste we should also follow their bad. Pausanias mentions a statue of Bacchus, made of gypsum and painted, and another of gold, with the face painted red. What could these have been but mere bedaubed idols and priestly relics? The Baths of Titus and the Villa of Hadrian, it must be remembered, though full of mural decorations, presented no instances of coloured statues. No great statue has ever yet been found coloured. The writer shows very judiciously that many passages in the ancient authorities on this subject are very vague, and, as they are at present corrupted in the text, utterly unintelligible. Thus, Pliny speaks of a statue of Athamas, the work of Aristonidas, who mixed iron with bronze to produce a redness that would resemble a blush: and Callistratus speaks of a Cupid, by Praxiteles, in which the same artifice was employed. Plutarch men-

tions a statue of the dying Jocasta, formed of a metal that expressed the death pallor of her countenance. Callistratus, equally ill understood, describes a statue of a Bacchante, who held in one hand a kid with its entrails exposed, the colour of the marble representing the livid flesh. On such quotations, the chromatic school found their arguments. Mr. Westmacott thinks statue-colouring an Asiatic element in Greek Art. The colour introduced into Greek architectural ornament was intended to complete the chromatic effect, and to insure distinctness or prominence to certain parts of the sculpture. Mr. Westto certain parts of the sculpture. Mr. West-macott adduces the failure of the painted frieze at Sydenham as an argument in his own The figures have lost their symmetry, the composition its unity, and the finer details are suppressed or lost sight of. The beautiful sculptured procession is now a gilded toy.

The Silesian Art-Union has ordered of Herr Machtig, the Breslau sculptor, a statuette of Martin Opitz, the celebrated head of the first Silesian school of pogts, whom a bygone age too courteously was in the habit of calling "the Father of German poetry." As model, the artist uses a full-length portrait of old Opitz (painter's name unknown), in the "Ständehaus-Gallerie" (Gallery of the Provincial States-house) at Breslau, which shows the poet in the rather fantastical dress of the seventeenth century, but is full of expression, and well adapted to serve as basis to a bust.

The subscriptions for the monument of Count Platen have been so very considerable, that the model of a colossal statue (to be executed by Prof. Halbig, of Munich,) has already been commenced. This great and noble German poet, whose lot in life it was to look out in vain for sympathy and acknowledgment, and who, in the sad isolation of a voluntary exile, found a solitary and untimely far away in Sicily,—is also getting, at last, his due share of honours. The statue, we hear, is to stand at Platen's birthplace, in the little town of Ansbach, in Bavaria.

A monument to the antiquarian Winckelmann as about to be erected at Stendal, in the Old Mark of Brandenburg, where, some hundred and thirty years ago, he was born as the son of a poor shoe maker. The expenses are being raised by public subscription, and the model has been contributed

gratis by Prof. Wichmann, of Berlin.
In the Royal Bronze Foundry of Munich, a statue of Beethoven, by the American sculptor, Crawford,—representing the great master more youthful and more jovial than Hahnel's statue on the Münster-platz at Bonn,-has been finished, and is about to depart for the Music-Hall at Boston to which it has been presented by an American amateur. At the same establishment a colossal statue of Berzelius, intended for Stockholm, is in the course of progress; and the great equestrian statue of Washington, also by Mr. Crawford, which is to be a part of the intended Washington monument, will be east in a very short time.

A bust of the late General von Radowitz is being executed, by command of the King of Prussia, under the direction of Prof. Bläser, of Berlin, who modelled it partly from memory, partly from a mask, and some sketches. It is praised as very true, regarding features as well as bearing.

Prof. Retschel, of Dresden, has finished a medallion, in marble, of Dr. Franz Liszt, which is intended for the Paris Exhibition.

A sarcophagus has been found near Sidon. is covered with inscriptions in the old Phœnician tongue, and promises, if deciphered, to furnish ethnologists with a key to another branch of the Semitic languages. If authentic, a more impor-tant discovery has not been made in the present

MUSIC AND THE DRAMA

St. MARTIN'S HALL—Haydn's 'CREATION' will be a formed on THURBDAY, March 22, under the direction of 3 times here as a constant of the Musicaellers, and as St. Martin Hall. Commence at he pass seven o'clock.

SACRED HARMONIC SOCIETY, Exeter Hall.—Conductor, Mr. OBTA.—On PHIDAY NEXT. March 29rd, Mendelseohn's COSTA.—On PHIDAY NEXT. March 29rd, Mendelseohn's COSTA.—On PHIDAY NEXT. March 29rd, Mendelseohn's COSTA.—On STATE OF THE STAT

EXETER HALL—Sir HENRY BISHOP.—In compliance with numerous applications, Mr. MITCHELL begs to announce that an EVENING CONCERT, upon an extended scale, of Glees, Quarteria and Concern, and the complex of the complex o

'IMMANUEL'.-Under the immediate Patronage of HER MOST GRACIOUS MAJESTY THE QUEEN, and the rest of the Royal Family, this Orastrio will be performed at St. MARTIN'S HALL, on THURSDAY EVENING, March 29, for the benefit of the Home for Gentlewomen. Principal singers: Madamc Clara Novello, Miss Amy Dolby, Miss Dolby, Mr. Sims Reeves, and Mr. Weiss. Conductor, Mr. HERRY LESLE.-Tickets, 26. 6d., 5a., and 10s. 6d., are to be had at Jullien & Co. 8, 214, Regent Street.

Mr. ALFRED MELLON respectfully announces, that the FIRST grand OROHESTRAL UNION CONCERT will take place at St. MARTINS HALL, on MONDAY EVENING, Sciolist, M. Sainton (Violinist to Her Majesty).—Stalls. 7s. 6d; Reserved Seats, 5s.; Galleries, 2s. 6d; Area, 1s. Stalls and Reserved Seats to be had at Messra. Graner & Beale's, 30), Regent Street, Gallery and Area Tickets at St. Martin's Hall.

PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY. — First Concert. — Nothing could be much more familiar to the Philharmonic orchestra than the "full-pieces" selected harmonic orchestra than the "full-pieces" selected to inaugurate Herr Wagner's appointment as Conductor for the year. These were Haydn's Seventh Grand Symphony, Mendelssohn's Overture 'The Isles of Fingal,' Beethoven's 'Eroica' Symphony, and Mozart's Overture to 'Zauberflöte.'—Nothing could be stranger than the performance. — The violins were rarely together. The pauses in Haydn's andante were very long pauses, and every forte was a fortissimo. Mendelssohn's Overture was hurried and muddled, without ease or undulation,—and Beethoven's Symphony was afatiguing piece of exaggeration, stuck full of fierce sforzandi and ill-measured rallentandi. Further, Dr. Spohr's Scena Drammatica, got through heroically by Herr Ernst, was as badly accompanied as solo could be, —while the hackneyed trio from 'Cosi fan tutte,' 'Soave sia il vento,' would have gone utterly to sleep had not Madame Novello (who was in very fine voice) kept it in motion by giving the time with her head to the conductor. Was it worth while to affront the profession in London and to send a deputation to Zurich for no better result than this ?- Spirit Herr Wagner indisputably possesses,—but of his sense as a reader of great com-positions by great masters Monday's concert gives us a poor opinion:—and it remains to be seen how far his fits and starts will be able to impress our orchestra should be be intrusted with the production of any unfamiliar music.—The room was thinly attended.

CHAMBER CONCERTS .- Mr. S. Bennett's first Soirée was numerously attended, and the programme was agreeably varied, including Mozart's gramme was agreeably varied, including Mozart's Strinasacchi Duett Sonata; and, by way of novelty, two elegant MS. Songs by the Concert-giver, sung by Madame Novello,—the first of which, 'Indian Love,' was encored, thanks, in part, to the purity and beauty of tone with which it was sung. Considered abstractedly, the melody seemed to us over-tormented. If our English composers will Germanize themselves, they must bear to be referred to such tunes as those in Beethoven's 'Choral Symphony' and 'Choral Symphony and Symphony' and 'Choral Fantasia',—even to the half-melody opening his 'Lieder Kreis' (sung on Tuesday), in proof that German expression may be got without the secondary means to which they resorts of disproportionately. These Chamber Concerts of Mr. Bennett's are so liberally frequented by an obviously sympathetic audience, as to warrant

by other aspirants, who profess that they forbear from writing, because they have no means of bringing forward what they have written. But a panic, just now, seems to have possessed itself both of inventors and undertakers. Observe how mellifluously Mr. Ella glides away from any attempt to produce a novelty at his third Winter Evening, assuring his subscribers, in his programme, that ""experience in catering for musical entertainments, how-ever, soon convinces directors, that experiments of untried compositions of great magnitude are costly pledges at the shrine of Art, and that the public has more natisfaction in recognizing a favourite work, than being at the trouble of appreciating a new production."

Between "the birds who can sing and won't sing," and the bird-fanciers, who fancy that there is no music-market except for tunes as popular as 'Par-tant pour la Syrie,' or 'The Grenadier's March,' we must dispense with much new musical pleasure, we must dispense with much new musical pleasure, during the early spring at least. Such a course, besides being wearisome to the poor critic, "whom," however, as melancholy Jaques hath it, "there was no thought of pleasing,"—and bad for the public, because encouraging it in pharisaical exclusiveness,—is suicidal to the parties most concerned—the makers of music in both senses of the

HAYMARKET.—Mr. Stirling Coyne in a new piece, entitled 'The Secret Agent,' has resorted to the German,—a drama in five acts, by T. W. Hackländer, entitled 'Der Geheimer Agent,' of which lately some account has been rendered in Blackwood. Mr. Coyne's version is stated to be more from the Magazine than the original play, and bisconductive accordingly ("part") in stident. and his comedy is accordingly "new" in a wider sense than such pieces in general imply. Much of the development is his own, and, indeed, his main indebtedness to Herr Hackländer consists more of indebtedness to Herr Hackländer consists more of the idea conveyed by the title than of its dramatic embodiment. The English adaptation is in two acts. A German Duke Victor (Mr. Howe), being held in leading-strings by his Dowager-mother (Mrs. Poynter), is awakened to a true sense of his position by a lady who loves him—the Duchess's niece Ernestine (Mrs. Caroline White). He is startled by the fact that a marriage has been constived for him without his knowledge by the Duchess, and, not to compromise Ernestine, is induced to feign that his information proceeded from "a secret agent." Ultimately, he has to disguise himself as the secret agent in a domino and mask, and to fight a duel with Count Oscar (Mr. W. Farren), who aspires to the hand of Ernestine. Other disguises become needful. Count Steinhausen, his prime minister (Mr. Buckstone), Steinhausen, his prime minister (Mr. Buckstone), and Baron Standbach, his grand chamberlain (Mr. Compton), respectively assume the garb of a Spanish dancer and of Mephistopheles, in order to discover the mysterious personage, and each be-comes so convinced that the other is "the Secret Agent," that they contrive means for their mutual incarceration in the fortress of Spilsberg. At length, the old lady is wearied out with the confusion caused by the odd turn of court affairs, by which all her pet schemes are baffled, and willingly retires from public life,—so that the Duke is free to govern his own duchy and to marry whom he pleases.—The situations are cleverly arranged, but the dialogue is free from any taint of wit, poetry or thought. The second act was preposterously farcical. Two scenes, a palace interior with terrace and gardens, and an illuminated saloon, in which and gardens, and an intuminated sator, in which a masked fite takes place, are well painted. Mr. Howe's acting of the Duke was rough and ready; Mr. Buckstone as the Count was, as usual, humorous in his grimacing and funny in his makeup, and Mr. Compton as the Baron thoroughly

ADELPHI.-Success in dramatic composition is frequently attributable to other causes than intrinsic merit, even when the latter is considerable. Much always depends on the capacity of the performer, and it makes a serious difference whether the actor support the part or the part the actor. A little piece at this theatre, on Thursday week, was converted into a great one by the another remark. He cannot shelter his supineness in composition under the discouragement pleaded 'Betty Martin' is the title of the farce in question,

derived from a French vaudeville, 'Le Chapeau de l'Horloger,' by Madame Girardin, and also the name of the heroine, who was impersonated (emphatically) by Mrs. Keeley. Such a picture of intense terror as this actress exhibited on her first burst on to the stage has scarcely ever been witnessed in tragedy, illustrated even by the highest talent. The life and soul of Betty Martin, housemaid to Major Milliades Mohawk (Mr. Selby), had been as it were convulued with restalents. had been as it were, convulsed with mortal agony by some fearful disaster. What could have happened? A magnificent time-piece, adorned with Venus and Cupids, had slipped out of her hands, in her effort to restore it to the mantel-piece, and been fearfully mutilated. When partly recovered from the effects of this dreadful accident, she contrives to send for *Mainspring*, the clockmaker. He undertakes the necessary repairs hopefully; but the difficulty is to get him out of the house with his burthen unseen by master, who has just returned. The poor man is slipped into mistress's bed-room, but leaves his hat on the table. The bed-room, but leaves his hat on the table. The major, of course, cannot understand the reason of Betty's too evident confusion, but sees the hat, finds the sleeping apartment locked, and, being jealously inclined, guesses all the rest. It is now difficult to determine which distress is greater, that of the housemaid or that of the husband. The hat is got out of the way by the former, is found again by the latter, at last crammed into a sideboard drawer; now con-vulsively clutched, now indignantly crushed, and now hopelessly ruined by pressure, the true type of an anguish only ridiculous because originating or an angusa only ridiculous because originating in trivial occasions, but to those who suffer it almost insupportable. The tragic and the comic here are brought into a close alliance, and we could almost suspect Mrs. Keeley emulating the merit of Mr. Robson,—we say, emulating, not imitating, because the original genius displayed by Mrs. Keeley is indisputable, and the impression made on the audience was decided.

Another farce produced on Saturday was not equally successful. 'I'll tell your Wife' is the title.—This also has a foreign prototype; 'Les Marquises de la Fourchette.' The hackneyed contrivance of an hotel with its doors numbered is the distributions of the contributions of the contribution of the contri is the obvious stage resource for the production of the situations. Hither as old married man and a the situations. Hither an old married man and a young man about to be married arrive, each with his lady, supposed to be other than his wife or his intended. Add, that of the last the old man is the father, and that he and his future sonin-law thus become aware of each other's moral delinquencies;—one writing on the door of No. 8, "You shan't have my daughter," and the other on that of No. 9, "I'll tell your wife," and the reader has the whole plot. He then has only to imagine Mr. Keeley's expression of terror, which rivals that of his wife in the preceding piece. Notwithstanding the force of such ceding piece. Notwithstanding the force of such acting, however, the audience was sibilant. The idea is certainly not unexceptionable, the main incident of the category yelept "filmsy," and the application pointless, whether as a satire on society or a rule of life. In all probability, the

house was right.

PRINCESS'S. — Another translation from the French, by Mr. J. M. Morton, from 'Les Jeux Innocens,' by M. Foussier, translated out of rhyme into prose, and acted on the London stage, which, into prose, and acted on the London stage, which, in these cases, ranks no higher than as a province of the Parisian, under the title of 'A Game of Romps,' was produced on Monday. There is in it no story worth telling; the main purpose for such being to introduce the 'Game of Romps,' in which Miss Ternan, Miss Leclerq, Miss Heath, and Miss Murray are made to revel with Mr. Harley, a pedantic doctor, as a ruse to discover whether Miss Daly, as Julian, loves Miss Ternan, as Violet. By this means, a certain Marchioness (Mrs. Winstanley) is defeated in her intention to (Mrs. Winstanley) is defeated in her intention to make Julian a knight of Malta. It will be seen that the cast of the little piece is good; and it is altogether an elegant affair both in its appointment and its acting. The house was moderately at-

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other of the pleasures which make our Lent in London a carnival of odd entertainments, may be mentioned the Réunion des Arts, as continuing its meetings,—the second and third of the Bishop Concerts, under Mr. Mitchell's auspices,—Mr. C. Salaman's Lectures, with illustrations on the stringed instruments,-and mixed diversions at the Panopticon. These last combine an optical diorama of subjects from Sacred History, with "grand performances of Sacred music" by way of illustration. We cannot but consider such pupper-show work behind the taste of the times, and beneath the requirements of pleasure-seekers in England:—having never seen our public trusted with real works of Art, whether they be classical tragedy in the East or shilling oratorio in Long Acre, without the attempt commanding recogni-

Our contemporaries announce that Mr. Thackeray's comedy will not "come to pass" Olympic Theatre, having been withdrawn.

The anniversary meeting of the Royal Society of Musicians was held on Thursday week;—the volunteer music on the occasion, including a Fantasia from Herr Ernst, appears to have been more interesting than usual. The subscription, however, is reported as unprecedentedly small. An ever, is reported as unprecedentedly small. An impression is beginning to spread, that the old musical establishments of London have been "jobbed" somewhat mercilessly; and though no one seems able to project or carry out new ones, a younger generation of professors should cool.—

Meanwhile, the treasury of the Society of Female Musicians is receiving important additions,—a legacy of one hundred pounds having been just announced as bequeathed to it by the late Mr. Blackbourn, an organist. Remonstrances reach us to the effect, that these associated gentlewomen are more willing to inherit than to distribute; and that they allow formality too largely to supersede charity. It was in protest against an exclusive spirit that their Society was founded. But alaves when enfranchised are apt to become despetic ;-Eugenie Grandet, in M. Balzac's wonderful tale, on being enriched by the decease of her miser-parent, became, like him, a lover of money. So that if the complaint be just, the chary ladies may defend themselves by appealing to the tendencies of hu-manity and the precedents furnished by history and fiction.

A contemporary states that Mr. and Mrs. Sims Reeves, with companions worthy of them, and im-Reeves, with companions worthy of them, and im-provements duly made in orchestra and chorus, have accepted a short engagement at the Hay-market, during which "at least one new English opera is to be produced."—Mr. Smith is advertis-ing Italian and German opera after Easter. Mean-while, the Drury Lane advertisements of the week announce the unprecedented success of 'L'Étoile, and-logical sequence-that the opera will only be played a few nights more. The Sunday Times states that MM. Brandus, Dufour & Co., the Parisian holders of M. Meyerbeer's copyrights, have commenced proceedings against the Drury Lane management, for performing the work without due authorization. We fancy that this is a mistake. More to be relied on, we suspect, is an announcement in the Gazette Musicale of the cast with which 'L'Étoile' is to be given at our Royal Italian Opera. This is to include Madame Bosio, Mdlle. Marrai, Signori Gardoni, Lucchesi, Lablache,

MM. Tagliafice and Zelger, and Herr Formes.

A new opera by M. Thalberg, on the story of
Monaldeschi, the murdered secretary of Queen
Christina of Sweden, will shortly be brought forward at Vienna. Are we henceforward to have nothing save crimes, and treasons, and super-natural mysteries in the musical drama? Has comic opera expired for ever, because composers can no longer make melodies, and singers can no

longer sing the same?

Mdlle. Cruvelli has tried the part of Rachel in 'La Juive,' without adding to her fame. The Parisian journals are agreed upon the violence done by her to M. Halévy's music; and the grim frenzy sible to treat the Parisians; and we confess that with which she personates the ill-starred daughter of our slighter theatrical wares are among the last of Israel.—M. Wicart, a tenor, who has distinguished our productions that we should care to exhibit to

MUSICAL AND DRAWATIO GOSSIP. - Among | himself in Belgium, and Mdlle. Moreau-Sainti, are also engaged for the Grand Opéra, to which theatre Madame Laborde is to return.—The correspondent of the Morning Post writes in high praise of Signor Braga, an Italian violoncellist of reputation, who has just been heard in Paris .- M. Berlioz, says the Gasette Musicale, has just won another success at Weimar, by what he calls a lyric monodrama, — 'The Return to Life,'—spoken before the cur-tain of the theatre, and accompanied by an invisible orchestra and chorus on the stage behind the curtain. He is now at home again,—we presume to prepare for the production of his 'Te Deum,' on st days of April.

The Washington Globe publishes an account of the State collection of American copyright music, registered according to law,-from which a fact or two may be picked out. The collection

two may be picked out. The collection

"is made up of a single specimen of each musical composition which has been issued in the United States for the past third of a century, and consists of one hundred and twenty thick volumes—sixty volumes of songs, and sixty volumes of songs, and sixty volumes of songs and sixty volumes of songs and sixty volumes of the kind. * * The gradual increase in the annual quantity issued is worthy of remark. The songs from 1619 to 1894 are all comprised in a single volume, while those received in 1853 require seven volumes of nearly the same size. One volume comprises also all the songs for the four years from 1834 to 1838, both included; while in 1840, nn 1841, and 1846, two volumes were required; in 1843, 1844, and 1845, three; in 1847, 1848, 1849, and 1851, five; and in 1850 and 1852, six. In 1842 only one volume of songs appears, and during the current year the number will probably reach eight."

-The first of the sixty volumes of instrumental music dates no further back than 1835.-Let us return for a moment to the songs. We should be glad to believe that each one of the sixty volumes referred to contained a single specimen of new melody, — without which, for type, germ and basis, there cannot be much creation in music. But we have misgivings. Recent examination of a collection of song-books, purchased in the American cities, and possibly the most ample one of its kind in England, leaves us doubtful as to the existence in America of much nationality or invention. The ditties gathered are either European, or else are pale, stupid, and characterless. We have found are pale, stupid, and characterless. We have found nothing more picturesque than 'Woodman, spare that tree,' which hardly gets beyond our own "Come where the aspens quiver,"—more pathetic than 'Lucy Neal,' no parallel, we submit, to our own 'Auld Robin Gray,"—more piquant than 'Jim Crow,' the piquancy of which lies in the burden with its gesticulations, and not in the stanzas so piquantly burdened. Such a meagre state of national verse could hardly be otherwise than accompanied by a want as entire of national melody,-even supposing that America for the last quarter of a century had possessed a school of composers able to express in music the thoughts which verse engendered.

To continue our Transatlantic gossip.-Among singular titles, we have not met one more singular rhan that of a forthcoming book of American Psalmody for children—'The Young Shawm.'—An American opera, 'Rip van Winkle,' by Mr. Bristow, is about to be produced in New York.—Letters from the United States announce that Mr. Wallace may be shortly expected in England.—It is more curious than edifying to remark the strange concessions to which the thirst for Republican concessions to which the thirst for Republican gold will force the very artists who are least complaisant in England. Fancy, for instance, Signor Mario singing the part of *Idreno* in 'Semiramide,' and, in the last scene of the opera, introducing his last scene from 'Lucia.' This Signor Mario did at his last appearance but one in New York.

—The Transplantic press scene to have walknowd. -The Transatlantic press seems to have wakened up to some civility towards Madame Grisi ere she departed; and commended her for never having once disappointed the public during her long and fatiguing engagement.

Mr. Mitchell, we perceive, is intending to give twelve English theatrical performances in Paris during the spring,—we suppose to entertain the public assembling for the Great Exhibition. To good Shakspearian performances it will be impos-

our Allies,—the more, as some of our best actors are tied fast in London. Mr. C. Mathews, it is true, will be free, since we perceive that the Lyceum is to be let from Easter to Michaelmas.—Miss Fitz-

patrick is "starring it" at the Surrey Theatre.
The courtesies of this strange time almost turn Hood's caricature of civil war into a reality. We last year recorded how the Czar's theatrical agent, General Guedeonoff, recovered damages in the French courts of justice from M. Berton, an actor, who had broken his contract with the theatre in St. Petersburgh. We read, a day or two since, that the General has handed over the sum in question to the French Society of Dramatic Authors,— Thither, too, have gone M. Legouvé's damages extorted from Mdlle. Rachel.

MISCELLANEA

Shakspeare Interpretation .- "More than three controls ago, some time about 1520, Raffaello Sanzio was hard at work painting Madonnas, to delight the eyes and gladden the hearts of the simple worshippers of the modern Cybele. His best were probably painted somewhat later. There was rather a passing in these data for Madden. was rather a passion in those days for Madonnas was rather a passion in those days for mandalina; everybody painted Madonnas, but none matched his for intellectuality. Now, it is an undoubted, but a melancholy fact, that the licence of those days permitted to patrons, popes and prelates, parish priests and princes, opportunities for ex-hibiting to the admiring gaze of painters models from whence to draw their inspirations far more pretty than pure,-more correct in their proportions than correct in their morals. It mattered not;—the genius of the painter robed them in holinot;—the genus of the painter rouse them in non-ness. They were seen and worshipped. Some sixty or seventy years later, when the fame of all these Madonnas had been pretty well bruited about, Shakspeare wrote 'Cymbeline'; and in the fourth act, in alluding to the supposed loss of her lusband's affections, Imogen is made to say, that some jay of Italy, so marvellously young and so exquisitely lovely as to be a-painting as a Madonna, had betrayed him. Whether Shakspeare wrote Mother or Madonna I cannot determine; but half-a-dozen changes can be rung with either on the little words without deposing sense, sound, or scanning, so as to render the interpretation clear

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The Metropolitan Bridges .- A Select Committee of the House of Commons has been appointed to inquire into the state of the bridges over the ames, and the approaches thereto; to report whether the communications and approaches are adequate to the present and increasing traffic to and in the metropolis; if not, the best mode of improving the same, and whether it would be deble to have one or more bridges over the Thames, and where, and the best mode, out of local funds, of providing the cost of such bridges, and of improving the said communications and approaches, and throwing open to the public the toll-paying bridges.

Calculating Machine.—A Correspondent says:—
"If the calculating machine of M. Scheutz of Stockholm, mentioned in the Athenaum of February, can be brought to construct tables according to the duodecimal scale of Baron Silvio Ferrari noticed in the Athenaum of November, 1854, and all works and calculations in geometry, astronomy, horology, navigation, and military science shortened and made less difficult, a great advantage will be conferred upon the world. An examination into the truth of the matter by competent persons should be made, and if found correct, let a set of the requisite tables be printed without delay, and the requisite tables be printed without delay, and let England go shead and carry a light to the nations. The Roman ten, X, or some other sign, would replace the cipher to be removed to the column of dozen or twelves. The eleven might keep its place."

To Correspondents.—Dabbler in Botany.—J. B.—E. H. V. —E. T.—A. S.—M. & Co.—received.

Errata.—For "T. R. T. Tolson," author of some poems noticed in the Athenceum [ante, p. 230], read Polson. For "Nelson," as publisher of Gibson's 'Memoirs of the Brave, noticed last week [ante, p. 290], read Wilson.

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